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Results of G-7 Tokyo Ministerial Talks on Russia Noted

Japan Minister: Agreement on Majority Vote Issue

OW1604091293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0856 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 16 KYODO—Foreign Minister Kabun Muto said Friday [16 April] the G-7 nations agreed that if Russian President Boris Yeltsin wins a majority of the votes cast in the April 25 referendum they will consider it a vote of confidence. Foreign ministers of the Group of Seven leading industrialized nations agreed in talks April 14-15 in Tokyo that a majority of votes would be sufficient under democratic rules to establish a vote of confidence and that it would also apply to Russia, Muto said.

Muto disclosed the agreement while prerecording a television program sponsored by the government. The agreement shows that the G-7 nations showed their support for Yeltsin, who is protesting against regulations set last March by the Congress of People's Deputies stipulating he must gain a majority of the electorate if he is to win a vote of confidence.

German Minister To Meet EBRD President

OW1504123593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1228 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 15 KYODO—German Finance Minister Theodor Waigel said Thursday [15 April] he will meet with Jacques Attali, president of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD], over reported overspending by the bank. The FINANCIAL TIMES newspaper said in a front-page article Thursday the British Government will press for tight controls on spending by the bank, established two years ago to provide aid to the former Soviet Union and East European countries.

The report said the bank spent more than 200 million pounds (302 million dollars) on overheads and equipping its building in the past two years, nearly twice as much as its aid disbursements. A statement issued by waigel in Tokyo on Thursday said he will meet Attali in Bonn in the near future to be briefed on the bank's spending.

Waigel, who is head of the bank's policy-making body, said he has instructed it to investigate the report. He was in Tokyo for a ministerial meeting of the group of seven major industrial nations to discuss aid to Russia. British Chancellor of the Exchequer Norman Lamont, also in Tokyo, expressed concern over the report at a news conference Thursday.

G-7 Chairmen Issue Statement

OW1504115693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1147 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 15 KYODO—Following is the chairmen's statement issued after the Group of Seven (G-7) joint ministerial meeting and the following meeting with Russian ministers:

1. Introduction

At the request of the heads of state and government of the seven major industrialized countries and of the president of the EC Commission, and in the process of preparation of the Tokyo summit, foreign and finance ministers of G-7 countries and representatives of the European Community met in Tokyo on April 14, 1993, to discuss support for reform in the Russian Federation. Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa of Japan opened the meeting, which was chaired jointly by Kabun Muto, minister for foreign affairs of Japan, and Yoshiro Hayashi, minister of finance of Japan.

On April 15, 1993, the ministers met with Boris Fedorov, deputy prime minister and finance minister of Russia, and Andrey Kozyrev, foreign minister of Russia, for an extended discussion of the economic and political situation in Russia and to review how the international community could best support Russia's reform program. Our Russian colleagues reaffirmed the determination of President Boris Yeltsin and his government to move forward with reform. They welcomed our determination to support the reform process in ways which complement the efforts of Russia.

2. Support for Russia's Reform

Russia has embarked on a far-reaching transformation process with the aim of building a democratic society, establishing a market economy and improving the welfare of its people under the leadership of President Yeltsin. Russia has made courageous and extraordinary progress in the last two years. Russian reform and progress toward democratization are essential to world peace. We want to see a democratic, stable and economically strong Russia, firmly integrated into the community of democratic states and into the world economy. We are confident that the G-7 and Russia will continue to cooperate constructively and responsibly in international affairs.

The Russian people themselves must bear primary responsibility for economic and political reform. The development of a market economy in Russia will be a long arduous undertaking which will require difficult adjustments by the Russian people. We assure the Russian people of our support in coping with the inevitable hardships of the transition period. We remain resolved to work with Russia to develop lasting cooperation based on the principles of partnership and help for self-help laid out at the Munich summit. Our assistance will be

pragmatic, visible, tangible and effective, tailored to Russian absorptive capacity and phased with the progress of reform.

We welcome the recognition by the Russian Government that both monetary stabilization and further structural reform, including privatization, are critical. A positive environment for private initiatives and investment, including a proper legal and administrative framework, is crucial for the transformation of the economy. Better access to export markets is indispensable to structural reform in Russia.

3. Bilateral and Multilateral Actions

We have agreed on a series of multilateral actions which are closely interlinked with our bilateral efforts, as described in the annex. Close coordination among our countries and the international organizations as well as close contacts with the Russian authorities will be necessary.

Russia is currently experiencing a particularly difficult situation. We are also mindful of the challenging tasks facing other economies in transition. They too can continue to rely on our support.

The success of the Russian reform program is in the interest of all countries. We encourage others to contribute to the actions we have taken today.

4. Next Steps

Our meeting in Tokyo has helped lay the foundation for the meeting to be held with President Yeltsin in July in Tokyo. The heads of state and government of the seven major industrial democracies and the president of the Commission of the European Community will continue to pay close attention to developments in Russia. They look forward to a fruitful review in July.

Annex

Support To Be Provided to Russia

1. Support By the IMF for Macroeconomic Stabilization

Progress toward macroeconomic stabilization, especially the reduction of Russia's high rate of inflation by bringing monetary and credit expansion under control, is of paramount importance to the success of Russia's economic reforms.

We encourage the IMF to play a more active role in this area, and we agree that the IMF should be prepared to provide tangible support for the steps toward stabilization.

(A) We warmly welcome the proposal to create a new IMF systemic transformation facility which could help countries in transition and provide Russia with up to 3 billion dollars in financial support made available in two tranches.

We urge that the first tranche be disbursed when Russia makes a political commitment to adopt an appropriate adjustment policy, as indicated by a policy statement.

The second tranche should be disbursed when there has been satisfactory policy implementation with a focus on monetary policy measures to contain inflation, paving the way for a stand-by arrangement.

(B) The IMF and Russia are strongly encouraged to develop a stand-by arrangement of up to 4.1 billion dollars in more intensive support for economic stabilization, on the basis of a comprehensive macroeconomic stabilization program, as soon as possible and in any event before October 1, 1993.

(C) We reaffirm our commitment to make available the currency stabilization fund of 6 billion dollars to boost confidence in the rouble market, once macroeconomic conditions have stabilized.

2. Support by the World Bank for Structural Reforms

(A) Structural reform measures are essential for building a market economy and can most effectively be implemented in the context of macroeconomic stabilization.

(B) The World Bank as a provider of long-term support is well positioned to take the lead in supporting Russian structural and sectoral reform.

(C) We urge the Russian authorities to improve their cooperation with the World Bank and to accelerate their efforts to utilize existing support by drawing down funds under last year's import rehabilitation loan, and to conclude the negotiation of the 500 million dollar oil sector loan, which carries an additional 500 million dollar co-financing, as rapidly as possible.

(D) We endorse the World Bank's efforts to increase support for structural and sectoral reforms in parallel with the IMF's new systemic transformation facility, including a second critical imports loan. We welcome the World Bank's willingness to provide, for the coming 15 months, up to 4 billion dollars in new commitments in the form of loans to support investment, the strengthening of institutions, and reform in several key sectors such as energy, agriculture and housing which will directly benefit the Russian people.

3. Support Mainly Through the EBRD [European Bank for Reconstruction and Development] for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises

(A) Small and medium-sized enterprises are crucial for the development of a private sector in Russia. The EBRD should have a key role in this area.

(B) We ask the EBRD to establish, in close cooperation with us, a 300 million dollar fund financed half by its own funds to promote Russian small and medium-sized enterprises. We invite other countries to contribute to

this fund. We also request the EBRD to prepare the ground for creating a Russian bank for small and medium-sized enterprises.

4. Support for Privatization of Large Enterprises

One of the crucial areas of structural adjustment in Russia is the restructuring and the privatization of large-scale enterprises. We agree to set up a working group to explore how best to assist this process including possibly by combining bilateral and international financial institutions resources, with a view to reporting at the Tokyo summit.

5. Debt Rescheduling

We welcome the agreement between 19 creditor countries and Russia on the rescheduling of the debts of the former Soviet Union, concluded at Paris on April 2, 1993, which represents a support of over 15 billion dollars and which puts a heavy burden on creditor countries' budgets. The relief will substantially ease balance of payments constraints in the present stage of the reform process and paves the way for maintaining credit-worthiness and for new capital inflows.

6. Export Credit Agency [ECA] Activities and Cooperation

(A) The activities of the ECA represent a major source of financing in our support for Russia.

(B) It is important to ensure that ECA financing supports Russia's structural reforms especially industrial restructuring in such key areas as energy.

(C) To this end, it is highly desirable that there be opportunity for cooperation between the World Bank and the ECA.

(D) We are confident that the ECA can provide export credits and guarantees for viable projects in an amount in the range of 10 billion dollars.

7. Expansion of Trade

Improvement of access for Russian products to international markets strongly reinforces Russian structural reform. We intend to take measures to further open our markets. We will work with the Russian authorities for Russia's full integration into the international trading system through membership in the GATT.

Existing trade regulations in the area of advanced technologies (including Cocom [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls]-related regulations) should be gradually liberalized, provided that Russia establishes effective export controls.

8. Energy Sector

We urge the rapid creation, in Russia, of an environment which encourages private investment and trade in the energy sector. In step with this, we intend to encourage relevant companies in our countries to expand their investment in Russia's energy sector. We emphasize the importance of an early conclusion of the Energy Charter Treaty.

9. Nuclear Safety

(A) Recent incidents highlight the urgency of achieving improved safety of nuclear power plants in Russia. This requires in the first place resolute action from Russia itself. We are committed to cooperate through the full and timely implementation of the multilateral program of action agreed at the Munich summit. Concrete projects for safety improvements need to be undertaken without delay.

We will work through the improved G-24 coordination mechanism to achieve early and significant safety gains. We also emphasize the importance of fully utilizing the nuclear safety account managed by the EBRD in pursuing this aim. We call upon the international community to contribute to the account. We emphasize the importance of close coordination between the EBRD and the G-24 in the operations of the nuclear safety account. We will examine appropriate measures with our Russian colleagues on the basis of the World Bank and IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] studies and will carry forward the process initiated at Munich at the forthcoming summit in Tokyo.

(B) Ocean dumping of radioactive waste is a matter of great concern. We agree that this should be studied further.

10. Dismantling Nuclear Weapons

The importance of assistance to dismantling of nuclear weapons and the disposition and control of fissile materials derived from them is recognized as an issue relating to the security of the whole world. National cooperation with Russia in this area constitutes a part of multilateral efforts. Some G-7 countries are already working with Russia. We agree to consider how this work could be furthered and how other countries could be involved in these efforts.

11. Science and Technology

(A) With respect to the International Science and Technology Center, whose establishing agreement was signed last November, we stress the importance of necessary procedures to be taken in Russia to enable the International Science and Technology Center to commence its activities at the earliest possible date.

(B) We see possibilities to proceed with new forms of cooperation in science and technology, including programs in the field of outer space.

12. Food and Medical Assistance

We are now providing food and medical assistance and remain ready, as in the past, to consider additional support in case of emergency.

13. Technical Assistance

We stand ready to assist Russia in attracting a broad flow of know-how and experience to benefit concrete projects and individual enterprises in the regions and localities. Teams of experienced advisers should engage in long-term cooperation on the spot and more Russians should come to our countries for training. The Russian Government should strengthen its ability to direct technical assistance to where it is needed. We urge the World Bank to activate without delay and make full use of the consultative group process agreed at the Munich summit in order to achieve a more effective coordination.

14. Bilateral Cooperation

We welcome the recent decisions of G-7 countries to increase their bilateral support. Our bilateral efforts are an integral part of our common strategy to assist Russian reforms. We stand ready to continue our bilateral efforts, which are closely linked with and complement the above outlined action program.

15. Support Implementation

Recognizing that greater efforts to improve the effectiveness of our support are needed, we will work urgently to ensure such support is implemented as efficiently as possible. To that end we will seek, in close consultation with the Russian authorities and relevant international organizations, to establish arrangements to facilitate the use of technical cooperation and financial support, and to cooperate with the Russian authorities in removing bottlenecks so as to improve the efficient implementation of support.

Support Program for Russia

Initial Support for Stabilization	4.1 billion dollars
—IMF systemic transformation facility	3.0 billion dollars
—World Bank import rehabilitation loans	1.1 billion dollars
Full Stabilization Program	10.1 billion dollars
—IMF stand-by loan	4.1 billion dollars
—IMF currency stabilization fund	6.0 billion dollars
Structural Reform and Essential Imports	14.2 billion dollars
—World Bank loan commitments	3.4 billion dollars
—Cofinancing of World Bank oil sector loan	0.5 billion dollars
—EBRD small- and medium-enterprise fund	0.3 billion dollars
—Export Credit Agency credits and guarantees	10.0 billion dollars
Debt Rescheduling	
—Public debt rescheduling	15.0 billion dollars
—Private debt rescheduling	.... [as received]

Japan

Miyazawa Arrives in Washington for Summit

OW1504235593 Tokyo KYODO in English 2311 GMT 15 Apr 93

[By Antonio Kamiya]

[Text] Washington, April 15 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa arrived in Washington Thursday for talks with President Bill Clinton that both Japanese and U.S. officials say will be important in determining the shape of bilateral ties over the next four years. The summit meeting is the first between the two leaders since Clinton came to office in January.

Talking to reporters during the flight from Tokyo, Miyazawa emphasized that the purpose of his trip was to build a "relationship of trust," adding that he believes the fate of the two countries is sealed in mutual interdependence. "We rely on each other. I believe the President shares the same feeling," he said.

While the two leaders are expected to cover all major aspects of the bilateral relationship in three hours of talks planned for Friday, the focus will be on trade issues, particularly on how Japan's large trade surplus can be pared down. "We don't like the fact that we have over a 40 billion dollar trade deficit with Japan. We have got to do something about it," U.S. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown told reporters Thursday.

Brown and other senior U.S. officials, including Clinton himself, have been putting pressure on Japan to open up its markets and boost imports, as trade statistics show the U.S. trade deficit with Japan is widening once again.

The U.S. trade deficit with Japan, which narrowed substantially in the late 1980s, soared again during the last two years, to 49.4 billion dollars last year. This is close to 60 percent of the entire U.S. global red ink in 1992.

Clinton has vowed to take "stern" measures to close the trade gap even though he has acknowledged the overall importance of U.S. relations with Tokyo, in addressing both a wide range of regional issues and global economic concerns.

"Economics is a central and growing concern in our foreign relations, with Japan and the rest of the world," a U.S. Administration official said.

"Saying this, I don't mean in any way to detract from the importance of our strategic relationship, or our global partnership. But, at this point, economic issues require priority attention," he said in explaining the Clinton administration's policy on Japan.

In addressing the frayed economic relations with Japan, U.S. officials have made it clear that the Clinton administration wants measurable, quantifiable results.

Japanese officials say Miyazawa will propose a new framework of high-level government consultations with Washington to examine trade issues but will resist U.S. pressure to tie imports to any numerical yardsticks.

Apart from seeking a specific Japanese commitment to boost imports, U.S. officials are also targeting a number of industries to which Washington wants increased access in the Japanese market.

"We certainly have a list of items that are important, that have a greater impact on reducing the imbalance in our trade," Brown told reporters. Asked whether Miyazawa will get the list in his meeting with Clinton Friday, Brown said that was "up to the President."

Clinton and Miyazawa will first hold talks at the Oval Office in a one-on-one meeting planned to last one and half hours. The two leaders will then be joined by cabinet ministers and key aides for a working luncheon.

Apart from trade matters, another issue that is likely to figure high on the agenda is economic aid to Russia and how the two nations would coordinate their efforts to support Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Clinton and Miyazawa are expected to discuss a wide range of global and regional issues, including security concerns in East Asia, the peace process in the Middle East and economic development in Latin America.

In addition, the two leaders will also discuss such issues as the global environment, refugee assistance, the promotion of human rights and support of democratic movements, U.S. officials said.

Apart from the summit meeting with Clinton Friday, Miyazawa will also have a separate meeting with Defense Secretary Les Aspin during his three-day stay in Washington. He will be heading back to Tokyo on Saturday.

The U.S. trip is Miyazawa's third since assuming office in November 1991. He last visited Washington in June last year for talks with former President George Bush while en route to Germany for the Group of Seven summit meeting.

Tokyo To Proceed With Plans for July Summit

OW1504092893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0912 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 15 KYODO—Japan will go ahead with plans to host a summit of leaders of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations on July 7-9 after G-7 ministers reaffirmed during their meeting on aid to Russia that an emergency summit is unnecessary, the top government spokesman said Thursday [15 April].

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said the proposal to hold an earlier summit to show support for Russian President Boris Yeltsin had never been favored by a majority of countries. "We talked about it again and

decided that there is no need at present" to convene an emergency summit, Kono told a regularly scheduled news conference.

French President Francois Mitterrand had strongly advocated a summit during the closing days of a campaign for general elections last month in which his socialist party suffered a severe setback.

Fedorov Welcomes Tokyo's Trade Insurance, Loans

OW1504124193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1231 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 15 KYODO—Russian Deputy Prime Minister Boris Fedorov on Thursday welcomed Japan's plan to expand trade insurance and greater loans by the Export-Import [Ex-Im] Bank of Japan, Trade Ministry officials said. Fedorov told Yoshiro Mori, minister of international trade and industry, that he viewed this as a concrete expression of Tokyo's wish to promote ties with Moscow in the economic field, officials said. The two men met at a Tokyo hotel.

At a just-ended meeting of foreign and finance ministers from the Group of Seven powers, Japan pledged trade insurance of 1.1 billion dollars and 400 million dollars in Ex-Im Bank loans as part of its aid package to Russia.

The Russian leader also reportedly said that Moscow intends to learn how Japan reconstructed its economy after World War II. Specifically, he wants to know what role was played by the government of the time.

To boost Western business investments in Russia, Moscow hopes Japan will identify barriers to foreign investment in his country, Fedorov reportedly said.

Kono Confirms Scrapping Russia 'Linkage Policy'

OW1504140293 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1011 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono told reporters today that the Japanese Government will no longer link economic assistance to Russia to resolving a territorial dispute because it is too negative an attitude.

At a news conference today, Kono said that the government will no longer adhere to its old policy that no major economic assistance can be given unless Russia compromises on the territorial issue. He said that the linkage policy was aimed at the communist government but the Russian Government is changing. He said that, therefore, the government's policy will change accordingly.

On these grounds, Kono said that a resolution of the territorial dispute is indispensable to a genuine normalization of Russo-Japanese relations. He added that, however, the government had always applied the so-called expanded equilibrium policy to deal both with the territorial issue and economic assistance to Russia in a well-balanced manner.

Kono's statement was made in accord with the Group-of-Seven Tokyo conference in which Japan declared its new policy of handling aid to Russia separately from the territorial issue.

Muto, Kozyrev Agree on Nuclear Waste Group

OW1504150793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1450 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Excerpts] Tokyo, April 15 KYODO—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev told his Japanese counterpart Kabun Muto in talks Thursday that Russia wants to resolve its territorial dispute with Japan on the basis of "law and justice" in order to fully normalize relations.

Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said the two also discussed the timing of a visit to Japan by Russian President Boris Yeltsin in the wake of Yeltsin's remarks he would like to come in late May.

In the almost four hours of talks at the Foreign Ministry's Iikura Guesthouse, Kozyrev agreed to Muto's proposal to set up a bilateral working group to look into Moscow's dumping of radioactive waste in the Sea of Japan.

Furthermore, Muto and Kozyrev agreed to make further efforts to persuade North Korea to rescind its decision last month to withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the officials said.

Kozyrev was quoted as saying, "Russia wants to make efforts to normalize bilateral relations through resolving... the territorial problem on the principles of law and justice and concluding a peace treaty." Japan demands the return of the islands of Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan, and the Habomai group of islets, which the former Soviet Union seized at the end of World War II.

Officials, who declined to elaborate on specific dates discussed, said the ministers agreed to continue working out the concrete schedule and preparations for Yeltsin's visit through diplomatic channels. [passage omitted on background of Yeltsin visit, covered in ref]

Officials said Muto strongly criticized the practice of Russia, and the Soviet Union before it, of dumping radioactive waste for decades in the Sea of Japan, the Sea of Okhotsk, and in an area southeast of Kamchatka. He said Japan is particularly concerned to hear that two nuclear reactors were discarded in the Sea of Japan in 1978.

Officials said Kozyrev did not reply either affirmatively or negatively to Muto's demand that Russia "immediately halt" the practice of sinking radioactive garbage.

Russian presidential spokesman Valeriy Butov said in Niigata on April 4 that Russia would never again dump nuclear waste in the sea. But a subsequently released Russian Government report said Russia will continue to dump its radioactive waste and aged reactors from

nuclear submarines at sea because of delays in the construction of storage and processing facilities.

On the subject of North Korea, Kozyrev agreed with Muto on the importance of North Korea's return to the NPT, officials said. He said Russia was willing to do what it can to persuade North Korea to do so, but added that there are limitations to Moscow's influence over Pyongyang.

Officials suggested Muto took pains in the talks to clarify Japan's recently elucidated position that it is not "linking" economic assistance to Russia with the territorial dispute.

At a press conference in Moscow on Monday, Yeltsin said, "The possibility of a Japan visit is emerging as Prime Minister (Kiichi) Miyazawa has said he will not link economic aid (to Russia) with the territorial issue." The Russian leader's remark had sparked concern in Japan that Yeltsin had misunderstood Japan's position to mean it was shelving the dispute.

Officials said Muto told Kozyrev that there is no change in Japan's position of making efforts to expand relations with Russia in areas covering politics and economics in a balanced manner.

Muto said Japan wants "to promote bilateral relations, centering on economic cooperation, while developing a process leading to a conclusion of a peace treaty by solving the pending territorial issue." He added that progress in one track would have a favorable effect on the other track.

Japan has long insisted that the dispute must be resolved first, or at least significant progress must be made to that end, before any dramatic expansion of bilateral ties can be effected. But Russia, and the Soviet Union before it, have insisted that it is first necessary to create an environment conducive to a territorial settlement.

Japan is now saying that while its public will not support full-scale assistance, it will not link progress on the territorial issue to assistance to Russia extended in the context of concerted G-7 efforts to help that country's reforms succeed. At the opening of the G-7 ministerial session Wednesday, Miyazawa announced that Japan will provide Russia with 1.8 billion dollars in fresh aid.

'Source' Says Muto Not Planning Moscow Visit

OW1604102893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1015 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 16 KYODO—Foreign Minister Kabun Muto has no plans to visit Moscow to lay the groundwork for Russian President Boris Yeltsin's possible visit to Japan in May, a top Foreign Ministry source said Friday.

The source told reporters Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev is instead expected to visit Tokyo since it was Russia, not Japan, that abruptly postponed a visit by Yeltsin that had been scheduled for last September. Kozyrev only just concluded a visit to Tokyo, where he attended Group of Seven (G-7) ministerial meeting on aid to Russia on Wednesday and Thursday [14, 15 April].

Nevertheless, the source said diplomatic protocol dictates that it is Kozyrev's turn to visit Japan since the last ministerial-level preparations for a Russo-Japanese summit took place in Moscow.

Then Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe visited Moscow from August 29 to September 4 to discuss Yeltsin's visit. Japan was miffed when Watanabe's scheduled talks there with Yeltsin were cancelled by the Russian side.

Shortly afterwards, Yeltin's visit itself was called off by Moscow and Japan was blamed for being too uncompromising in its demands for the return of four Russian-held islands seized by the former Soviet Union at the end of World War II.

The source said that in almost four hours of talks Thursday [15 April] Muto told Kozyrev frankly that the Japanese people felt immensely let down by the abrupt postponement of Yeltsin's visit and the "disrespectful" manner in which Russia acted.

Muto was also said to have cited Japanese irritation that Russia has not apologized for its World War II attack on Japan in violation of a neutrality treaty, its seizure of land, and its imprisonment of 600,000 Japanese, of whom some 50,000 died under miserable conditions in labor camps. But the source said that the talks were excellent overall and that Muto was able to establish a good personal rapport with his Russian counterpart.

The source said it was agreed by both governments not to fix a concrete date for Yeltsin's visit too far in advance out of consideration that political circumstances in Russia could again bring about a postponement and create even greater disappointment. But he indicated the month of May was being actively considered, partly because June would be "impossible" for Japan due to celebratory events surrounding the June 9 wedding of Crown Prince Naruhito and former diplomat Masako Owada.

The source said that while Muto was not anticipating the need to go to Moscow, he might do so if an urgent situation arose that would necessitate it.

Tokyo Asks IAEA for Russia Nuclear Waste Aid

OW1604060393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0518 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 16 KYODO—Japan asked the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on Friday for help in monitoring Russia's dumping of radioactive waste in the sea and the effects of a nuclear accident in the Siberia town of Tomsk 7. Mamoru Nakajima, director general of the Science and Technology Agency,

made the request to IAEA chief Hans Blix, who is in Japan for an atomic energy forum.

The IAEA has already dispatched an investigation team to Tomsk 7 in western Siberia, but Nakajima asked that a Japanese specialist be included in the next research team formed by the monitoring agency.

Nakajima also requested the cooperation of the IAEA's laboratory on marine radioactivity in investigating the effects of Russia's dumping of radioactive waste and obsolete reactors into the Sea of Japan. Blix replied that IAEA cooperation is possible in monitoring the sea dumping effects, if Japan and Russia can both agree on that.

It was reported earlier this month that the former Soviet Union and Russia had been dumping radioactive waste into the waters off Russia's far east coast, including the Sea of Japan, beginning in the late 1950s to 1991.

The Tomsk-7 accident occurred April 6 when a tank containing nuclear waste exploded, scattering radiation over a large area of Siberia. The Japanese agency is planning to send a survey team to Tomsk 7 to study the accident to help it devise safety measures for Japan's nuclear reprocessing facility at Rokkasho, Aomori Prefecture.

Peacekeepers Carrying 'Self-Defense' Weapons

OW1604054093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0528 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 16 KYODO—The second contingent of 600 Japanese peacekeepers are carrying weapons for self-defense when moving around in Cambodia, Japanese military officers here said Friday.

Members of the engineering contingent of the Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF), headed by Lt. Col. Yoshio Ishioroshi, are armed with 9-millimeter pistols and with rifles, they said. "Lt. Col. Ishioroshi has ordered (officers and soldiers) to carry the weapons in consideration of the recent worsening situation," the officers said.

The move comes as Khmer Rouge guerrillas reportedly have been piling up weapons and gathered about 200 soldiers at Vor Mountain, not far from a Japanese military camp in Takeo, southern Cambodia.

The first contingent of Japanese peacekeepers, which went to Cambodia last October, did not carry weapons, although they had them in storage depots.

The military section of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) directed its troops earlier this year to carry weapons, the officers said. The Japanese military peacekeepers carry the weapons only when they move from one place to another, the officers said.

The GSDF troops leave their weapons in storage when they work on repairing roads and bridges in southern Cambodia as part of the 22,000-member UNTAC force.

According to the UNTAC authorities, the Khmer Rouge buildup at Vor Mountain, some 18 kilometers east of Kampot, is in preparation for another offensive to cut National Highway No. 3, which connects Takeo and Kampot. At least two serious clashes between the Khmer Rouge guerrillas and Phnom Penh government troops occurred on April 8 and 10 at Chhuk when the faction launched an operation to cut the highway, the authorities said.

Over the last few months, the Khmer Rouge or the Pol Pot faction, one of four rival factions in Cambodia, has been suspected of killing UNTAC peacekeepers, election monitors and ethnic Vietnamese civilians. The Khmer Rouge has refused to disarm and participate in a general election to be held on May 23-27.

Roundtable Urges Industrial Technology Policy

932A01594 Tokyo ISUSAN JANARU in Japanese Feb 93 pp 8-13

[Roundtable discussion with Shoichi Saba, consultant to Toshiba Corp; Hiroyuki Yoshikawa, Tokyo University professor, and Shunso Ishihara, director general, Agency of Industrial Science and Technology: "Rules Needed for International Technology Relations in 21st Century—What Should Be the Aim of International Rules on Technology Amidst a Changing World Situation?"]

[Text] **Basic Direction of Technological Policy**

[Ishihara] Recent circumstances concerning technology can probably be boiled down to the following seven points.

(1) The East-West cold war structure has ended and such confrontations as economic gaps and trade imbalances have emerged. (2) The major impact of technological capability on economic competition has begun to be recognized internationally. (3) Economic blocs, such as EC unity and NAFTA [North American Free Trade Act], have started to bud. (4) Amid the major growth of Japan's economy, the idea of shares for shares sake without a concern for coexistence is no longer acceptable internationally. (5) With internationalization of corporate activity, the significance of national borders in terms of economic and technological aspects has changed. (6) Common issues of all mankind, such as the global environmental problem, have surfaced. (7) Themes of technological development with extremely high costs have greatly increased, accompanied by a need for cost-sharing.

We would like, today, to discuss the direction of technological policy from an international viewpoint. First, we would like to hear Mr. Yoshikawa's view concerning the basic direction of technological policy.

[Yoshikawa] I have recently felt that one of the truths about the improvement of productivity by companies in order to boost their respective profits—that is, the problem of maximizing a company's profit under a free market economy and the productivity of the entire world (global productivity)—has perhaps become discordant. In other words, I believe that the ideological structure has disintegrated and the world has been structured

along corporate lines. Also, including the fact that a single global economy is being established, we are now in an era in which overall productivity has become the issue within the framework of a single and limited global economic sphere.

What is the quantity of well-being or welfare that we can offer to mankind in the entire world? If this is the numerator, the burden we bear toward the world as a system is the denominator. A major concept of "welfare" divided by "the burden of providing it to the system called earth, including the people," exists. The question of whether the direction of maximizing welfare and the direction of our localized efforts will coincide has become extremely important.

There is a need for order, and if there are various policies for that purpose, I believe that it is important to agree, first of all, on the concept of maximizing global productivity through those policies within the international society.

[Saba] Technology is the moving force of economic progress, and establishing international rules for technology will provide a major impetus in promoting globalization or internationalization.

Science and technology is inherently extremely international. However, even during the East-West cold war era, or following that era, the science and technology in the various nations has been linked to the political and economic system of the respective nations. In other words, in the United States and the Soviet Union, military technology occupied an extremely predominant role, while in Japan the development of peaceful science and technology has been central.

Following these trends, a new international order is being built today. The science and technology under each nation's respective systems with their respective traits are about to fuse together under a new order and enter a new phase.

Amid these circumstances, Japan has set forth international contribution as one of its science and technology policies. As Mr. Ishihara mentioned at the outset, I believe it is highly significant that international contribution through science and technology has been taken up amid the progress of economic globalization and increasing interdependence among nations.

What Are the Priorities in Grappling with the Problem?

[Ishihara] Based on such circumstances, the Agency of Industrial Science and Technology is contemplating concrete measures, such as (1) strengthening basic research, (2) opening up projects internationally, (3) actively transmitting information, and (4) promoting international standardization activities. Mr. Yoshikawa, what do you think are Japan's future priorities?

[Yoshikawa] I believe that technical cooperation is probably the most difficult for international society to understand. How should technical cooperation be implemented? Actually, there are various forms of international cooperation being implemented through corporate alliances. The question is whether structuralization, which transcends such pro form international corporate structures and national borders, is moving toward maximized global productivity in the real sense. Regarding this point, I believe that the Agency of Industrial Science & Technology needs to have a sound perspective.

The scope of science and technology is broad, but I believe that scientific knowledge is an international public asset or jointly-owned knowledge. However, I believe that knowledge which impacts on competition is a privately-owned asset. Between them lies a lot of knowledge of various types, and I believe that the way in which the knowledge is shared plays an extremely important role in the improvement of global productivity.

In other words, it depends on the level of international cooperation. I believe it is necessary to first classify the broad knowledge from science to technology, and to adopt detailed policies on where cooperation is not feasible because it is competitive knowledge and where it is feasible.

[Saba] From the standpoint of Japan's international contribution, I believe that research on big science is one area of cooperation. For example, there is a common awareness that nations are needed to do joint research on human frontier science and nuclear fusion, and there is a limiting factor that makes it difficult for any single nation to engage in them. They are therefore performed under joint international research. I believe that, in the future, Japan must be able to play a fitting role in the areas of international cooperation.

[Yoshikawa] For example, the clarification of elementary particles is basic research. Also, systematically clarifying the success of the Japanese economy and publishing a textbook is basic research. I wonder if Japan can create an academic system called basic productivity science. The idea is to create a cooperation system from such a standpoint. It is necessary to work on a level with advanced industrial nations.

[Saba] Japan's economy has come this far with its outstanding production techniques as a base, and it should transmit them to other nations in an easily understandable form. It is also important to put them in a form that can be used by other nations. I believe that there will be points in common at the basic level, but because productivity is very closely related to a nation's history and national traits, there will also be variations to a greater or lesser degree.

[Yoshikawa] That will probably be the greatest point at issue. Technology which has been successful in Japan may not necessarily be successful in other nations without some adjustment. However, there is a principle of basic behavior in producing things, and it is probably a common principle that transcends cultures.

Technology includes knowledge on a variety of facts related to a particular technology, in addition to the methods of application. However, those methods are still not written in textbooks. My hypothesis is that the methods of application are common throughout the world. Although the required knowledge may vary from one nation to another, the principle concerning the methods of application is probably similar. When that point is clarified, transfer will become possible.

[Saba] After the war, we brought in technology from various parts of the world. At the same time, we diligently studied about the problem of educating our technicians. We exerted great effort in introducing such peripheral knowledge in addition to the technology itself.

Harmonization as a Goal

[Ishihara] I believe that along with technical transfers to the developing nations, it will become increasingly necessary to conduct international exchanges between the advanced nations. In such a case, new rules that are different from past ones will probably be necessary. What is your opinion on this?

[Yoshikawa] The important question is whether there can be technical exchange and cooperation that transcend cultural differences. I feel that regionalism is clearly on the rise today. Of course, there are attempts to build political walls, but in the background is clearly an economic motive. Although some say that this is a step toward eventual cooperation in the world as a whole, I cannot agree.

It will result in tremendous costs in the long run. By moving forward without exchange of technical information between blocs, the productivity gaps between the blocs will expand, and the blocs themselves will eventually disintegrate. In that case, the loser blocs must learn from the accumulated knowledge of the winner blocs. What is happening in Germany today will happen throughout the world. In effect, enormous costs, including educational costs, must be borne. Therefore, although it may be difficult to bear now, I believe it is better to work toward globalization constantly, and it should be advocated as Japan's policy.

[Saba] There is definitely a trend toward regionalism. However, I do not believe that the American continent can be independently self-sufficient. Nor can Europe be self-sufficient. Although the respective economic blocs may be established, I believe that a bloc's economic competitiveness is enhanced and sustained through exchange with other regions. Therefore, despite the formation of political regional blocs, I believe it will be difficult economically.

In that respect, there is an international commonality in technology. Technology helps the economy to grow, and international rules for technology are established. I believe that this becomes a great motive force for the promotion of globalization and internationalization.

There was a debate for a long time in such forums as the WIPO [World Intellectual Property Organization] concerning the problem of intellectual property rights, including the patent law. The fact that the United States has finally indicated a compromise by shifting from its past position represents a trend toward harmonization, and this is a very good trend. Regarding industrial standard specifications also, nations are moving toward acceptance of the ISO [International Standardization Organization], and in that sense I believe that the world is heading toward common rules and harmonization. Due to national interests, I do not believe that things will move so smoothly, but even if if requires time and there is a trend midstream toward regionalism, I believe that there will be progress toward internationalization of science and technology in the long run. Tkae, for example, the environment problem, the energy resources problem, and the population problem—problems that threaten the existence of mankind. A common international awareness of coping with them is emerging. The rise of a common recognition means common efforts to overcome the problems and cooperation to solve them. In other words, I believe that there is no alternative to moving aggressively in the direction of technology transfer, cooperation in technology, promotion of joint research, and the conduct of joint observation.

Problem of Harmonization and Competition

[Ishihara] The problem of harmonization and competition must be turned toward a good direction. I believe that forming an international consensus—for example, "it is advisable not to carry restrictions too far" or "competition is recommended here" or "harmony is preferable there"—is the key to future technological development. What are your views on this?

[Saba] It is difficult to balance harmony and competition, and I do not believe they can be regulated. The question of whether Japan is carrying out internationalization means whether Japan is contributing internationally, whether Japan is respected internationally, or whether it is really an open system from an international standpoint. Toward that end, it is essentially important for Japan to have an adequately strong technology and to perform research that can be respected by the world. If it has highly unique research or technology, it will be possible for it and other nations to mutually complement each other and bring harmony. I believe that this is extremely important as Japan's policy on science and technology.

[Yoshikawa] I also believe that regulation will be absolutely useless. However, if there is a desire to promote harmony on production technology, the nations could consult with each other and create an environment for it with public funds. It is also necessary to devote efforts internationally toward the establishment of a fair market for intellectual property rights. There are problems regarding the use of intellectual property rights. Unless there is harmonization concerning their use, confusion will arise.

[Saba] Regarding intellectual property rights, the inclination of the United States is to emphasize protection of the inventor or innovator, with little regard for the general profit. Japan also protects the inventor, but greater emphasis is given to industrial policy, in other words the strengthening and nurturing of Japan's industries. The two ideas are on a collision course. Consequently, unless there is harmonization with rules and concepts amid internationalization, it will be difficult to maintain harmony.

[Yoshikawa] It is important for both sides to compromise.

[Ishihara] There is an argument that, with corporate internationalization, issues will emerge regarding coordination between national policy and corporate profit. What are your thoughts regarding this.?

[Saba] It is a question of how we would feel if the technology that has been developed with the people's taxes is diffused through corporate activity and benefits foreign companies.

In particular, regarding technology related to national security in which we are all involved in a broad sense, there is a contradiction between the thinking on national security and corporate behavior, or rather there is an aspect that restricts corporate behavior.

Inherently, technology and manufactured products are meant to flow freely. However, from the standpoint of global security and peace, restriction of certain areas is probably inevitable. Amidst internationalization, there are what may be called contradictions based on the present circumstances of bilateral relations between nations.

[Yoshikawa] If we are left on this present course, there are such critical problems as the expansion of the North-South gap and the destruction of the global environment. To prevent them, we must disseminate technological information as much as possible, even it is contrary to the national interest in the short term. Of course, I do not believe that the present starving regions could immediately absorb the technology. However, efforts to distribute technology to various regions will eventually be linked to our national security. A greater flow from us to them through cooperation means a higher potential for us. We should not stay inside the club of advanced industrial nations, but must extend the flow to the developing nations.

[Saba] Dialogues within international forums are necessary concerning such problems of technology.

[Ishihara] Japan has proposed the formation of a working group within the OECD [Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development] on technological policy as a link to such problems. In the near future, a project will start to promote international cooperation on technological development.

Thank you both for offering your frank views today.

North Korea

DPRK Rejects Japan Offer for Talks on Nuclear Issue

OW1504134493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1326 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 15 KYODO—North Korea has refused Japan's offer for bilateral talks on Pyongyang's announcement that it will withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), a senior Foreign Ministry official said Thursday [15 April]. According to the official, speaking on condition of anonymity, a Japanese minister in Beijing made the offer to his North Korean counterpart by telephone on two separate occasions—last Wednesday and Tuesday this week.

In response to Japan's proposal to negotiate on the issue in Beijing, the North Korean side said that Pyongyang knows Japan's position on the matter well enough, according to the official. North Korea has also refused to resume stalled bilateral negotiations on fully normalizing Japan-North Korea diplomatic relations, the official added.

On March 12, North Korea announced it will pull out of the NPT over a demand by the International Atomic Energy Agency to be allowed to inspect two facilities in Yongbyon, 90 kilometers north of Pyongyang. North Korea has insisted that the facilities are military installations unrelated to nuclear development. North Korea's withdrawal from the NPT will take effect three months after its declaration.

Ministry Views U.S. State Department Comment on Arms

SK1604020193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0115 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Statement (tamhwa) by a DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman released on 15 April—read by announcer]

[Text] A U.S. State Department spokesman babbled on 9 April that we were scheming to manufacture a missile with a range of 1,000 km and transfer it to Iran and said that our spread of missiles must be held in check. The United States, which had been vociferous about the suspicion of our nonexistent nuclear weapon development, is now slandering us over the problem of the spread of missiles. This vividly shows how persistently it is trying to isolate and stifle [apsal] our socialism.

The whole world knows that the biggest manufacturer, exporter, and disseminator of technology of nuclear weapons, missiles, and other weapons of mass destruction is none other than the United States. It is no secret that in 1991 alone, it sold weapons of mass destruction worth over $41 billion to Middle East countries and almost all the other countries of the world. Britain, France, and many other countries are also exporting missiles.

To realize its insidious ambition, the United States is slandering with fabricated materials progressive countries, not uttering a word about the fact that, it, with its allies, is

exporting a large number of nuclear weapons and missiles and transferring their technology to other countries. In the proliferation of nuclear weapons as well as missiles, the United States is still resorting to double standards and the policy of interfering in the internal affairs of other countries, its bad habit from the cold war era.

Such strong-armed action by the United States cannot work anywhere and cannot avoid opposition and rejection from the people of the world in the present world where international justice and fairness must be ensured.

The United States must first take its large number of nuclear weapons and missiles out of South Korea, instead of slandering another country and trying to put pressure on it.

Cambodia's Sihanouk Continues Pyongyang Visit

Pays 'Courtesy Call'

SK1604021593 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1539 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 15 (KCNA)—His Royal Highness [H.R.H] Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia, today paid a courtesy call on President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Prime Minister of the State of Cambodia Kong Sam-ol, supreme advisor to the head of the state of Cambodia and the secretariat of the chairman of the SNC Um Manorin and his wife, vice-minister of culture of the State of Cambodia Him Chem and other suite members.

On hand were vice-president Yi Chong-ok, vice-premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier Kim Pok-sin and officials concerned and DPRK ambassador e.p. [extraordinary and plenipotentiary] to the Supreme National Council of Cambodia Kim Hyong-yol.

President Kim Il-song conversed with H.R.H. Samdech Sihanouk in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Kim Il-song Greets Delegation

SK1604022393 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1543 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 15 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today greeted His Royal Highness [H.R.H.] Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia, on an official goodwill visit to the DPRK.

Fluttering on the flag poles were flags of Korea and Cambodia.

President Kim Il-song exchanged warm greetings with H.R.H. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and hugged him.

A welcome ceremony was held.

National anthems of Cambodia and the DPRK were played.

In company with President Kim Il-song, H.R.H. Samdech reviewed a guard of honour of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

Present at the welcome ceremony were H.R.H. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and Madame and Deputy Prime Minister of the State of Cambodia Kong Sam-ol, supreme advisor to the head of the state of Cambodia and the Secretariat of the Chairman of the SNC Um Manorin and his wife, Vice-Minister of Culture of the state of Cambodia Him Chhem and other suite members.

Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, Vice-Premier Kim Pok-sin, officials concerned and DPRK Ambassador e.p. [extraordinary and plenipotentiary] to the Supreme National Council of Cambodia Kim Hyong-yol were present on the occasion.

Kim Il-song Arranges Banquet

SK1604023693 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1556 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 15 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today arranged a banquet at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall in honour of His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia and party and government delegations from different countries.

When President Kim Il-song appeared in the banquet hall together with his Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and high-ranking personages of parties, governments and parliaments from different countries amidst the playing of the welcome music, the entire participants welcomed enthusiastically him.

President Kim Il-song made a speech at the banquet.

His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk spoke next.

Invited to the banquet were Silvestre Siale Bileka, Prime Minister of the Republic of Equatorial Guniea; Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice-president of the Syrian Arab Republic and vice-chairman of the national progressive front of Syria; Wasin Sajjad, chairman of the senate of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; Hani al-Hassan, political advisor of the president and member of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Palestine National Liberation Movement, who is special envoy of president of the state of Palestine Yasir 'Arafat; Armando Hart Davalos, Cuban minister of culture, who are visiting our country to congratulate President Kim Il-song on his birthday; heads of parties and members of the party and

government delegations from different countries and other foreign guests. Present there were O Chin-u, member of the presidium of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and minister of People's Armed Forces, premier of the Administration Council Kang Song-san, Vice-presidents Yi Chong-ok and Pak Song-chol, vice-premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, who are Politburo members of the C.C., WPK and other party and government cadres.

Also present were the April 15 nongratulatory group of Koreans in Japan headed by first vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean residents in Japan (Chongnyon), different delegations of Chongnyon, president of the international Taekwondo federation Choe Hong-hui and Overseas Koreans.

The banquet proceeded in a cordial atmosphere overflowing with friendly feelings.

Sihanouk Presents Gift

SK1604021893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1603 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 15 (KCNA)—His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and chairman of the Supreme National Council, today presented a floral basket and gift to President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on his birthday and wished him good health and long life.

President Kim Il-song expressed thanks for this.

Present on the occasion were the entourage of His Royal Highness Samdech.

Also present were Vice-president Yi Chong-ok, Vice-premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam and other officials concerned

Kim Il-song Addresses Banquet

SK1504235293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2120 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Speech by Kim Il-song at banquet for Cambodian President Norodom Sihanouk at Kumsusan Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on 15 April—read by announcer]

[Text] To respected Your Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, respected foreign guests, comrades, and friends:

I am very happy to see His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk again and to be with you here. I warmly welcome again His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia and chairman of its Supreme National Council, on behalf of the government of our Republic, the DPRK people, and myself. I am deeply grateful for your congratulations on my birthday.

His Excellency Siale Bileka Sylvestre, prime minister of Equatorial Guinea; His Excellency Dr. Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice president of Syrian Arab Republic and vice chairman of its National Progressive Front; Wasin Sajjad, chairman of Senate of Islamic Republic of Pakistan; and many high-level figures of many other countries' parties, governments, and parliaments are present here. I warmly welcome all party, government, and parliamentary high- level leaders and members of delegations from many countries of the world, who came to the our country to congratulate me on my birthday, and I am deeply appreciative of parties, governments, and people of those countries that sent us their delegations and amity missions.

I also thank the congratulatory delegation of Korean residents in Japan led by Yi Chin-kyu, first vice chairman of the General Association of Koreans Residing in Japan, and overseas compatriots from various areas.

Frankly speaking, I intended not to mark my birthday this year. However, Your Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, many delegations and figures from various countries, and overseas compatriots came to congratulate me. I am deeply impressed with their warm congratulations. The world friends' and overseas compatriots' wholehearted congratulations and wishes are a great encouragement to me.

Your Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk has visited our country in April every year, despite busy days, to congratulate us. Your Royal Highness Prince has visited us this time again despite the fact that Cambodia is faced with various complicated problems in connection with the general elections to be held this year. This vividly shows the relations of special imtimacy and the lofty sense of obligation existing between us and Your Royal Highness Prince.

In the basic foundation of the relations of deep intimacy and warm friendship between us and Your Royal Highness Prince are the lofty spirit and ideal of loving the fatherland and the people and of treasuring justice and peace.

Your Royal Highness Prince has actively struggled for the independence of Cambodia and the prosperity of the nation without giving in to any foreign forces' pressure and interference. Your Royal Highness Prince's patriotic and nation-loving spirit have been more clearly displayed in your sincere efforts to achieve national reconciliation and unity and to solidify peace after your return to the fatherland.

Today the Cambodian people are showing great trust in and high expectations for Your Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, respecting you as an outstanding patriot produced by the Khmers and as the father of the Khmer nation.

The various political groups and people of Cambodia will surmount all difficulties and barriers by firmly uniting under the leadership of the Supreme National

Council headed by Your Royal Highness Prince and, thus, will build a unified, independent, neutral, and peaceful new Cambodia without fail.

As far as the Cambodian issue is concerned, as in the past we will also in the future resolutely support the patriotic and independent position Your Royal Highness Prince has adhered to and will extend firm solidarity with the just cause of the Cambodian people.

Comrades and friends: The progressive people of the world are now faced with the common task to build a free and peaceful new world. The success of making the world independent depends on how we strengthen the unity of independent forces. When the people of all the countries of the world who are protecting independence are firmly united and closely cooperate with each other, they will be able to successfully build a new independent world devoid of domination, subjugation, aggression, and war.

Our people treasure friendship and unity with the progressive people of the world. Our people will make positive efforts to further strengthen friendship and unity with people of all the countries of the world who defend independence.

Our people are today firmly maintaining the stand of independence without succumbing to the endless external pressure and challenge. To isolate and stifle [apsal] our Republic at all costs, the imperialists and reactionaries are trying to impose so-called sanctions on us by using the nonexistent nuclear issue as a pretext. However, no threat or strong-arm measure will work on us. Our Republic, which considers independence to be life itself, will in no way allow its independence to be infringed on.

Our Republic's antinuclear, peace-loving stand and policy are consistent. We will also in the future be strongly united with the progressive people of the world to denuclearize the Korean peninsula, promote a stable peace in the world, and build a free and prosperous new world.

The visit to our country by His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk and party and government delegations of various countries of the world will encourage our people's struggle to defend and maintain socialism under the uplifted banner of the chuche idea and independently, peacefully reunify the fatherland according to the 10-point program of great unity of the entire nation.

On this occasion filled with warm comradely love and friendship, we wish for the long life and good health of His Royal Highness the respected Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia and the good health of Monique, the wife of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk; the good health of His Excellency the respected Siale Bileka Sylvestre, prime minister of Equatorial Guinea, and his wife; the good health of Your Excellency Dr. Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice president of the Syrian Arab Republic and vice chairman of its National Progressive Front, and his wife; the good health of Wasin Sajjad, chairman of the Senate of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; and the good health of high-level party and government leaders and dignitaries of various countries and various foreign friends; and the good health of various overseas compatriots present on this occasion; and the good health of all the comrades present on this occasion.

Sihanouk Addresses Banquet

SK1604020993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2247 GMT 15 Apr 93

["Speech of H.R.H. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk at Banquet"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 15 (KCNA)—His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, made a speech at the banquet arranged by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall today.

He said it was a great honor for the Cambodian delegation and for him personally to be granted a special audience and this sumptuous banquet by President Kim Il-song on his 81st birthday.

He further said:

The Cambodian delegates present here and I myself, in the capacity of the head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, feel extremely honored, happy and proud to be able, on this historic day of April 15, 1993, to join the prominent leaders and delegates from fraternal countries present here, the valiant Korean people and important workers most faithful to Your Excellency, the father of the nation, to present to respected Your Excellency our most profound respect, our warmest and admiring felicitations and most fervent wishes for your august health, your extreme longevity and your immortal glory, in the name of the Cambodian people, the Supreme National Council of Cambodia and all the Cambodians.

The bonds that unite our two countries, our two peoples and their leaders date back to 1965 and in the subsequent period they have been reinforced each year. Our solidarity is unbreakable and our multiform cooperation is exemplary. As far as I myself is concerned, I have received the supreme honor and unique privilege of being taken by Your Excellency great leader as your close anti-imperialist comrade-in-arms and your own brother who has been awarded the highest distinction, the medal of the hero of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

All these supreme honors granted to me by Your Excellency great leader of the Korean people are equally a top honor to Cambodia and the Cambodian people who follow you, most illustrious and most glorious person, with boundless admiration and gratitude.

In our successive struggles for national salvation and liberation of our country, we, Cambodians, have always received from Your Excellency president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea your powerful, undivided and firm support and your multiform and generous aid.

On our part, Cambodia, the Cambodian people and I myself, have always remained and will remain on the side of Your Excellency great leader of the Korean people, His Excellency Marshal Kim Chong-il, the Workers' Party of Korea and the fraternal Korean people, and the most glorious Democratic People's Republic of Korea. We Cambodians will always and firmly support your patriotic supreme policies and all your just propositions, suggestions, plans and programs for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea. Unless South Korea is liberated from the occupation of foreign forces and unless the Seoul administration facilitate in a concrete fashion the process of reunification of Korea, I will always oppose the establishment of diplomatic, economic and other relations between our country, Cambodia, and "Seoul." I fully support and will support always the foreign policy and all the decisions on the matters of external, diplomatic and national defense policies of the DPRK under the most impressive clairvoyant and wise leadership of Your Excellency Generalissimo Kim Il-song.

As to the nuclear problem, I assume you that Cambodia and myself will always fully support the wise stand of Your Excellency.

Together with all other progressive anti-imperialist and pro-chuche peoples of the world, the Cambodian people most deeply respect and admire Your Excllency Generalisimo Kim Il-song who is not only the incontentably greatest hero, liberator and genius of creation in the Korean history of many thousand years but also the greatest hero of our Asia and our third world and the authentic sun of socialist, progressive, non-aligned, anti-imperialist and pro- chuche humanity. Your Excellency Generalisimo Kim Il-song is the model of most accomplished veritable leadership.

From your childhood up to date and in the future also, you have never ceased and will never cease to work, day and night, without rest and respite, for maximum service for you people and build your country by displaying sublime heroism and genius, to build an invincible great power which will be most developed in all domains of the socialist construction guided by chuche and a veritable paradise of the Korean people on the earth for the greatest happiness and prosperity of the Korean people which will be envied by other free and developed countries in the world.

Each year witnesses the emergence on the territory of numerable grand and so beautiful edifices for the country and the people, which are fruits of rare, brilliant and immortal work of Your Excellency Generalissimo Kim Il-song and His Excellency Marshal Kim Chong-il.

The DPRK under your illustrious leaderhip and under so dynamic an so brilliant direction of His Exellency Marshal Kim Chong-il is regularly advancing everyday, at the giant and ultra-rapid pace of chollima along the road of super-development.

The celebration of the most glorious 81st birthday of respected and beloved Your Excellency great leader in such super-development [as received] of the DPRK is the greatest honor, greatest joy and gratest pride for all the Korean men and women and all the innumerable friends in the world.

We wish most respected Your Excellency a long and long life.

Sihanouk Congratulates Kim Chong-il

SK1604065293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0605 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 16 (KCNA)—Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, extended warmest congratulations to Comrade Kim Chong-il, Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, upon his election as the chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In the message dated April 15, the Samdech wishes Comrade Kim Chong-il uninterrupted, glorious success in the accomplishment of his noble cause.

He says Comrade Kim Chong-il is a great genius of construction who has turned modern Korea into a paradise of the people, and a great military genius who has built the strongest Armed Forces in the world guaranteeing the complete independence and peace of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and its allround prosperity and invincibility.

Comrade Kim Chong-il is leading Korea to her reunification, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk says.

He paid highest homage representing his most friendly feeling to Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Kim Il-song, Yi In-mo Meet at Red Cross Hospital

SK1604023593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1601 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 15 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today called on Yi In-mo at a branch of the Korean Red Cross polyclinic.

He warmly hugged Yi, acquainted himself in detail with his medical treatment after his hospitalization, inquired after his health and cordially sympathized with him.

Noting that it is a great pride of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean nation to have such incarnation of faith and will and a fine communist as Comrade Yi In-mo, he encouraged him to get medical treatment well

with the indomitable fighting spirit and faith with which he won against the enemy, so as to recover health as early as possible and participate in a military parade marking the 40th anniversary of the victory in the fatherland liberation war.

Recalling that Comrade Yi is a veteran who joined the party just after the liberation of the country, he awarded him a party membership card bearing the number of his card at the time when he was admitted to the party and with his signature. He said Comrade Yi should, as in the past, so in the future, too, exalt the noble title and honor of a member of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Overwhelmed [by] the fact that the great leader visited an ordinary soldier in sickbed without taking rest on his birthday before he called on the great leader to offer best wishes for good health and long life, Yi vowed to as ever [to] trust and follow the great General Kim Il-song whom he had held in high esteem as the spiritual support and the source of will for many years in prison and to devote himself to the noble cause of reunification under the leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il, the respected Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army.

He wholeheartedly wished the great leader good health and long life.

President Kim Il-song posed for a photograph with Yi In-mo.

South Korea

PRC Facilitates Negotiations on Nuclear Dispute

ROK, PRC Ministers To Discuss Issue

SK0804015193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0122 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 8 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu is to meet with his Chinese counterpart, Qian Qichen, to discuss North Korea's nuclear development in Bangkok on April 21 or 22 during the 49th general meeting of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission of Asia and Pacific (ESCAP), Foreign Ministry sources said Thursday. Han could meet with North Korean First Vice Foreign Minister Kang Sok-chu as Kang is also to attend, the sources said Thursday.

Han is to explain to Qian the South Korean Government's desire to settle the North Korean nuclear problem peacefully and ask China to try to persuade North Korea to cancel its decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and to accept international nuclear inspections, they said. He will also list Seoul's reconciliatory gestures toward North Korea, including reduction of the South Korea-U.S. joint military exercise Team Spirit, and ask Qian's understanding and cooperation on the matter. The two foreign ministers are to exchange views on visits to Seoul by senior Chinese officials and signing a Seoul-Beijing aviation agreement.

In a related move, China has informed the South Korean Embassy in Beijing that it acknowledges the need for a foreign ministers' meeting of the two countries, a Foreign Ministry official said. Han is to give a keynote address to the ESCAP conference and Qian is to arrive in Bangkok on April 19.

Seoul, DPRK Use PRC as Intermediary

SK1504035993 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0310 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] North and South Korea have reportedly held behind-the-scenes negotiations to resolve the nuclear issue by using China as an intermediary. They have also reportedly finished exchanging each other's basic positions and preconditions to resolve the nuclear issue.

A ROK Government official said: North Korea presented Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan and other senior Chinese officials, who recently visited North Korea, with concrete conditions for North Korea's return to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and acceptance of inspections. I know that such contents have been conveyed to our government.

This official also said: This negotiation proposal which North Korea advanced includes details of how special inspections will be conducted, who will conduct them, and other new plans that merit examination by our government and the United States.

He also said: North Korea asked us to present a concrete proposal on the Team Spirit exercise and a guarantee of nonaggression against North Korea. Our government and the United States have already started to map out concrete plans for negotiations with North Korea.

PRC Minister Opposes Pressure on DPRK

SK1504042493 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0312 GMT 15 Apr 93

[YONHAP report from Tokyo]

[Text] The Chinese vice foreign minister said yesterday that further pressure or sanctions on North Korea regarding North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty would aggravate tension on the Korean peninsula.

During yesterday's interview with YOMIURI SHIMBUN, Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan stressed that China opposes the plan to resolve the nuclear issue by pressuring North Korea. Vice Minister Tang Jiaxuan hinted that based on this policy, China may possibly veto a resolution against North Korea at the UN Security Council.

Minister 'Optimistic' on PRC Role

SK1604065793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0639 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 16 (YONHAP)—Seoul is still optimistic that China will join the international pressure on North Korea to return to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said Friday. "The talks will deal mostly with North Korea's nuclear issue," he said when asked about the agenda of the Seoul-Beijing foreign ministers' meeting slated for April 21 in Bangkok.

Han and Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen will be in the Thai capital next week to attend the 49th session of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission on Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). "Seoul will ask for Beijing's active intervention," Han told an airport press conference prior to departure. "We will remind China of regional and bilateral complications unless the North Korean nuclear problem is quickly and successfully resolved."

China voted against the April 1 resolution at the International Atomic Energy Agency that decided to have Director-General Hans Blix refer North Korea's noncompliance with nuclear inspections to the U.N. Security Council. Beijing to this day opposes addressing North Korea's nuclear case at the council.

"We are not pessimistic," Han said on China's cooperation with the international community in pressing Pyongyang. Han precedes his attendance at ESCAP with visits to Malaysia and Singapore for his first Asian tour. "Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand are all members of the association of Southeast Asian nations and critical to Seoul's diplomacy in Asia," Han said. "We must promote and diversify South Korea's diplomatic arena beyond its traditional ties with Japan and the United States," he said.

Daily Views DPRK Moscow Embassy Staff Life

SK1604100393 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 15 Apr 93 p7

[From the "Reporter's Eye" column by Moscow-based correspondent Yi Chang-hun]

[Text] On afternoon of 13 April, the North Korean Embassy in Moscow invited approximately 200 Russians from all walks of life to a banquet marking North Korean President Kim Il-song's 81st birthday (15 April). It is unknown how the banquet where pro-North Korean Russians were present was. It seems, however, that North Korean Ambassador Son Song-pil must have delivered his greetings and courtesy speech praising President Kim Il-song and the 'Comrade leader Kim Chong-il' as usual.

Because of the continuation of cool relations between North Korea and Russia, the scale of this annual banquet is being reduced and 'reactions' of participating Russians are changing with each passing year. It is reflected by the North Korean Embassy's more and more closed operation and Russians' changed attitudes toward North Korea. One can easily notice this from the press conference held at the North Korean Embassy on 12 April.

In the press conference, Ambassador Son announced the '10-point program of great unity of the whole nation' recently adopted at the North Korean Supreme People's Assembly and commented on the recent U.S.-Russian summit held in Vancouver, Canada. Of course, only correspondent from Russian media invited by the North Korean Embassy can participate in a news conference at the embassy.

The 12 April news conference was held with correspondents from minor media, excluding Russia's leading newspapers because most of Russia's leading newspapers have a critical viewpoint of North Korea. The North Korean Embassy is negatively reacting to the Russian press that enjoys freedom of the press.

It is known that only a small number of the North Korean Embassy staff are allowed to watch Russian television. This is analyzed to be a measure to prevent possible ideological betrayals as a result of exposure to the Russian press which is on the tide of opening.

The North Korean Embassy staff are not only restricted in their outings to downtown Moscow, but are also forced to always move in groups of three or four. A Russian expert on North Korea said that "Pyongyang is shrinkin as days go by. In particular, Pyongyang seems to have become more closed-minded after its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT]."

I think that the North Korean Embassy in Moscow will close its door even more firmly, under the situation in which Russia, along with the United States and Japan, is criticizing North Korea's withdrawal from the NPT. Only some selected Russians will continue visiting the North Korean Embassy. However, it will become more and more difficult for North Korea to pick pro-North Korean Russians.

General Officers Involved in Army Reshuffle

SK1504121893 Seoul YONHAP in English 1207 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 15 (YONHAP)—The Army on Thursday effected a reshuffle affecting 16 general-grade officers. In the shakeup, four major generals were promoted to Lt. Generals and eight Brig. Generals to Maj. Generals simultaneously with their reassignment.

The reassigned three-star generals were Kim hyong-son, former special forces commander, who was named as Army vice chief of staff; Park Se-hwan named as commander of the educational command; Choe Kyong-kun as commander of the logistical command; and Yi Taek-haeng, commandant of the strategic planning headquarters of the joint chiefs of staff. Four promoted Lt. Generals were given the new duties of Army corps

commanders. They included Kim chong-shin, Army deputy chief of staff for operations.

The eight Brig. Generals who were promoted to two-star generals were all reassigned as division commanders. Three other Brig. Generals were also given their second stars but their duties remained unchanged.

Foreign Minister Departs on Southeast Asian Tour

SK1604070593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0515 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 16 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu left on an Asian tour Friday that will take him to Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand, where he will attend the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) conference opening April 21. Han is to meet his Chinese counterpart, Qian Qichen, during the ESCAP session for talks over North Korea's nuclear problem. The South Korean foreign minister is expected to ask Qian to convince Pyongyang to return to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and accept international inspection on its suspected nuclear facilities.

Han is also to discuss Qian's visit to Seoul, probably in late May or early June, and visits by other high-ranking leaders within the year. He will precede his ESCAP participation with trips to Singapore and Malaysia for meetings with premiers and foreign ministers, discussing bilateral issues, common regional interests and joint diplomatic measures to bring North Korea back to the NPT. Han will return on April 23.

Seoul To Regulate 148 'Strategic' Exports

SK1604084893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0815 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 16 (YONHAP)—South Korea will restrict the export of 148 strategic items from Oct. 1, a Trade, Industry, and Resources Ministry spokesman said Friday. Details of the measure would be officially announced on July 1 for implementation after three months, he said.

The 148 items were designated by the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (COCOM). They are 103 dual-purpose industrial items such as bearings and optical fibers, 21 military items, including missiles, and 21 nuclear-related materials such as plutonium.

Export of the restricted industrial items will require approval from the Trade, Industry, Resources minister. Approval of military items will be given by the defense minister, and nuclear materials by the science and technology minister.

Export of the 148 items to 16 former and current communist countries, including Russia, North Korea, Czech, and Cuba will be banned in principle. It requires approval for shipment of 74 of the sensitive industrial, military and nuclear materials to 24 COCOM member or countries in cooperative relations, including the United States, Britain and Hong Kong, while allowing free exports of the 74 other items.

Export of the items to other countries than these is possible only after screening and approval, the spokesman said. Violators of the export regulations face at least five years in prison and fines up to three times the export price, he added.

President Predicts Economic Recovery Under New Plan

SK1604030593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0030 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 16 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam predicted on Friday that the South Korean economy would take off if his 100-day plan succeeds and his proposed five-year economic plan is carried through to the end. Kim, meeting with 15 non-government members of the new economy planning committee over breakfast at Chongwadae [presidential offices], said that the five-year plan should be different from the seventh five-year social and economic development plan because it was to be the blueprint of the economic policy his administration would pursue for the next five years.

He exhorted the committee members to reflect the views of all quarters of society in drafting the plan, saying that the economy requires the participation and creativity of all people. Kim asked them to complete the plan by June 30.

Kim Yong-sam Presents Credentials for 11 Envoys

SK1604045893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0103 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 16 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam presented 11 new ambassadors with their credentials at Chongwadae [presidential offices] on Friday morning. The ambassadors are Han Sung-su to the United States, Hwang Pyong-tae to China, No Chang-hui to Britain, Kong No-myong to Japan, Kim Tae-chi to Germany, Kim Sok-kyu to Russia, Pyon Chong-hyon to Brazil, Ho Sung to Geneva, Kim Nae-song to Finland, Kwon In-hyok to Algeria and Hwang Pu-hong to Ghana.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Minister: U.S. 'Positive' on EAEC Proposal

BK1504101093 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 0800 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] The new U.S. Administration has shown a positive attitude towards the East Asia Economic Caucus, EAEC. The Bill Clinton administration has agreed to wait for the outcome of the ASEAN's deliberation on the matter. The ASEAN summit, which met in Singapore last year, has directed the secretariat to draw up a plan of actions regarding the EAEC.

Malaysia's Foreign Affairs Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said this to newsmen in Kuala Lumpur. Datuk Abdullah said the message was conveyed to him by the U.S. ambassador, John Wolf.

At the Senate confirmation hearing held recently, the U.S. Assistant Secretary for East Asia and Pacific Affairs, Winston Lord, said he wanted to see ASEAN sort out any problem that may arise in the EAEC before the U.S. Government make the final decision.

Earlier Datuk Abdullah met with Mexican Deputy Foreign Minister Javier Peres Renero. The Mexican Government has expressed its desire to become ASEAN's dialogue partner. Datuk Abdullah said the matter would be further discussed by ASEAN.

Government Ready To Beef Up Troops in Cambodia

BK1604092293 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0703 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Kuantan, April 16 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia Friday expressed its readiness to increase the capacity of its troops in Cambodia if necessary, and said it would abide by the directives of the United Nations should war break out there. Defence Minister Najib Tun Razak said Malaysia was prepared to send heavy arms to its troops there if the UN so directed.

However, the number of its troops would possibly not be increased from the current 1,100, he told reporters in this capital of the eastern state of Pahang. We always follow developments based on underground information from Cambodia and also news on developments from the UN, he said.

Najib was commenting on a Khmer Rouge guerrilla attack near Sisophon and a report that the guerrillas ransacked the house of a police officer from Malaysia. On navy leading hand [as received] Alhaimi Alip, who was allegedly pushed into the sea by Thai fishermen in Terengganu waters last Friday, Najib said the personnel had yet to be found. He said Malaysian authorities had contacted Thailand police for cooperation to get the fishermen to surrender.

Singapore

Government Concerned by DPRK Nuclear Stance

BK1504153793 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Singapore has expressed its concern over North Korea's decision to pull out from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. This is conveyed to the charge d'affaires of the North Korean Embassy in Singapore. A diplomatic statement said that Singapore is concerned over the implication of the move to the situation in the Korean peninsula and the nuclear nonproliferation. It hopes Pyongyang will reconsider its decision to withdraw from the treaty.

Pakistan Signs Double Taxation Agreement

BK1504110493 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 14 Apr 93 p 36

[Text] Singapore yesterday signed a double taxation treaty with Pakistan which is expected to boost business dealings between the two.

The Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to income taxes was signed by Mr. Koh Yong Guan, commissioner of Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore (IRAS), and Mr. Iqbal Farid, a member of the Central Board of Revenue of Pakistan. It is the 29th such agreement which Singapore has signed with other countries.

Mr. Koh described the signing as "timely" because Singapore has been encouraging its businessmen to move out and invest in the region. He said the DTA [Double Taxation Agreement] would foster closer economic ties and facilitate business opportunities for the two countries.

Concerns over double taxation and tax uncertainty generally impede cross-country business deals and investments. The latest agreement would remove double taxation on the income which is earned in one country by a resident of the other, he said.

The agreement would also clarify the tax obligations in the respective countries by spelling out the taxing rights of Singapore and Pakistan on all forms of income flows between them.

In his speech, Mr. Iqbal said provisions of the agreement would take effect in respect of incomes derived on or after January 1, 1987.

Bilateral trade between Pakistan and Singapore last year amounted to [Singapore dollar] $563.8 million, up 11.9 percent from the previous year.

Cambodia

Khieu Samphan Explains Withdrawal From Phnom Penh

BK1604083193 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Address by Khieu Samphan, chairman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea, PDK, and member of the Supreme National Council, SNC; dated 15 April—recorded]

[Text] Respected and beloved compatriots in and outside the country and compatriots in Phnom Penh City: I, Khieu Samphan, and my colleagues left Phnom Penh on 11 April and returned to the base of Democratic Kampuchea [DK] after working in the SNC within the framework of the Paris agreement for 17 months, from November 1991 to April 1993.

I and my colleagues are leaving Phnom Penh after the UN Secretary General and Akashi, chief of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia], declared open the UNTAC election campaign on 7 April. The PDK has successively opposed this UNTAC election because it is not free, not democratic, not just, and not fair. The PDK has again and again stated that it will not get involved in this UNTAC election.

Respected and beloved compatriots are all aware that DK will not get involved in this UNTAC election for clear and very profound reasons. The PDK will not get involved in the UNTAC election because this election takes place in a situation in which:

1. UNTAC, Vietnam, and Vietnam's puppets have not implemented and have destroyed the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement;

2. UNTAC has not verified that all Vietnamese aggressor forces are withdrawn from Cambodia as clearly stipulated in Article 1 of the Paris agreement;

3. UNTAC has not given any role to the SNC; even Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, who is SNC chairman, has not been given any role or rights by UNTAC;

4. UNTAC has not controlled the five ministries; namely the ministries of defense, security, foreign affairs, finance, and information. The Paris agreement clearly says that UNTAC should directly control these five ministries instead of letting the puppet regime be in charge of these ministries;

5. It is also because of the situation in which old Vietnamese aggressors, military and civilians—who are directing the puppet state authority—continue to control Cambodia in every respect; because new Vietnamese nationals keep flowing into Cambodia—there are over 2 million now with over 1.3 million given Cambodian identity cards; because UNTAC has given the Vietnamese all kinds of rights, including the right to vote; because Vietnam and puppets are masters of UNTAC; and because Vietnam and puppets are creating and intensifying activities to constantly create insecurity and terrorism to kill people and members of various political parties. All this is making the situation constantly insecure.

Concerning this situation, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, clearly said in his 13 and 14 December 1992 statements that this is a dark situation fostered by Vietnam, its puppets, and UNTAC in which there are terrorist activities and murders. It is in such a situation that the prince will not get involved in UNTAC elections, both the presidential election and assembly election. The prince even clearly informed the nation and the international community that once UNTAC elections failed or are overturned, with opposition from various parties and the entire Cambodian nation and people, he will start leading the Cambodian nation and people in his royal crusade to restore Cambodia's independence, peace, neutrality, and territorial integrity.

These are the basic reasons for the PDK's decision not to take part in this unjust UNTAC election.

Moreover, the PDK has coooperated with the Cambodian nation and people to struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors, territorial expansionists, and race exterminators, and their puppets and lackeys since the end of 1978 to liberate and save the nation and for Cambodia's independence, peace, neutrality, and territorial integrity. This is the sacred political goal that the Cambodian nation and people, the national resistance forces, and DK have fought for, are fighting for, and will continue to fight for. This is why the PDK has not got involved in the UNTAC election. On the contrary:

1. If DK takes part in the unfair UNTAC election, automatically this is opposing and betraying the ideal to fight against the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets and lackeys for Cambodia's peace, independence, and neutrality;

2. If Democratic Kampuchea takes part in the unfair UNTAC election, the PDK automatically becomes traitor to the nation, selling the nation to the Vietnamese aggressors and becoming Vietnam's lackeys. This would allow Vietnam, which is committing aggression against and occupying Cambodia, to annex Cambodia forever in accordance with the Hanoi Vietnamese's strategy.

These are clear and profound reasons leading the PDK to not get involved in the unfair UNTAC election in Cambodia. Furthermore, DK has also opposed the unjust UNTAC election. This unjust election is held against the Paris agreement and in a situation in which old and new Vietnamese are everywhere in Cambodia. It is held at a time when Vietnam's puppets and lackeys and Vietnam are carrying out terrorist and fascist activities to constantly kill the Cambodian people and members of various parties.

Why does DK oppose this? This is in order to get UNTAC to return to implement the Paris agreement in

accordance with the essence and spirit of the Paris agreement, which in particular requires that Vietnam pulls out of Cambodia and that there is four-party national reconciliation in Cambodia, as clearly stated in the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement.

Respected and beloved compatriots in and outside the country and compatriots in Phnom Penh: You are all aware of big and small events taking place in our country over the past more than 14 years—from the end of 1978 to early 1993. You are all aware of the Vietnamese aggressors; you have been the direct victims. You know and are aware of Vietnam's puppets selling, betraying, and killing the nation in their role as Vietnam's lackeys. You yourselves have been the victims. You are aware of the face, policy, and activities of UNTAC leaders who have destroyed the Paris agreement, have defended and assisted Vietnam and Vietnam's puppet regime and their cooperation to kill DK, and through this, to kill the Cambodian nation and people. You are well aware of all of this because you have witnessed these events and have been victims yourselves. You know about and remember this; you are the direct victims. Our nation and each of our families have been victims since Vietnam's aggression on 25 December 1978 and to this day. From the end of 1978—it is over 14 years—you know how the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets and lackeys have skinned our Cambodian people and how they did it.

Later on, at the end of 1991, there was the Paris agreement, thanks to the struggle of the Cambodian nation and people with the assistance and support from peace- and justice-loving countries and people the world over. The Paris agreement clearly says that:

1. UNTAC should verify that all Vietnamese aggressor forces are withdrawn from Cambodia and they do not return;

2. Cambodia should have a state authority representing it during the transitional period—that is, the SNC—and not Vietnam's puppet state authority.

The PDK has cooperated with our nation, people, and national resistance forces to struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors, territorial expansionists, and race exterminators since the start of of their invasion at the end of 1978. We, the PDK, in cooperation with our nation, people, and national resistance forces, and peace- and justice-loving countries the world over, have made efforts to struggle to achieve the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement, which embodies two main points:

1. Verification that all Vietnamese aggressor forces are withdrawn from Cambodia and that they do not return; and

2. There should be a body, called the SNC, representing the state during the transitional period to represent the sovereignty of Cambodia, which includes the four Cambodian parties.

I myself and the PDK, in cooperation with our Cambodian nation and people in and outside the country, including compatriots in Phnom Penh, have made efforts, struggled, and braved all kinds of dificulties to implement these two points since the beginning. What for? In order for UNTAC to verify that Vietnamese aggressor forces are withdrawn from Cambodia so that Cambodia has peace, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. Why else? We have also struggled for national reconciliation and for genuine national conciliation within the SNC, with the four warring Cambodian parties fighting in Vietnam's war of aggression joining together as a basis for our country, nation, and people to be reconciled. These efforts are also for Cambodia to have national forces again to defend and rebuild the nation.

It is because of this essence of the Paris agreement and it is because of our respect and satisfaction and desire to have the Paris agreement implemented that I and the PDK have braved big and small obstacles from every direction to go to Phnom Penh to join with the SNC, chaired by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, and to cooperate with UNTAC, which represents the United Nations, aimed at implementing the Paris agreement correctly, comprehensively, and meticulously.

However, you compatriots in and outside the country and you compatriots in Phnom Penh know yourselves that I went to Phnom Penh on 27 November 1991. I arrived at my guest house at 0900. At 0915, 15 minutes after I arrived at the guest house, the Vietnamese aggressors, Vietnam's puppets, and their allies dispatched henchmen, special Vietnamese troops, special Vietnamese police, henchmen of Vietnam's puppets, soldiers and special policemen recruited in Phnom Penh and from the provinces. They attacked my house from 0915 until 1600. This attack was systematically organized by Vietnam, Vietnam's puppets, and their allies. They kept on attacking, again and again, in phases. Pictures were taken; the event was televised again and again. The incident was broadcast over and over, every 10 minutes, to intimidate and frighten people. They showed pictures on television and in newspapers, and in their systematic propaganda to attack DK in accordance with their premeditated plan.

However, the face of the Vietnamese aggressors, their puppets and lackeys, and their allies were recognized by the Cambodian people nationwide and people in Phnom Penh who denounced them as great criminals and great murderers, destroyers of the Paris agreement; destroyers of the SNC; destroyers of national reconciliation; destroyers of DK; and destroyers of the Cambodian nation and people.

That day, 27 November 1991, was a historic one when the PDK joined with the resistance forces and the Cambodian nation and people to start the struggle for the implementation of the Paris agreement. However, only 15 minutes after our arrival in Phnom Penh, criminals, murderers—who are Vietnamese aggressors, Vietnam's puppets and lackeys, and their allies—started

to attack and completely destroy the enclosure and the house in which I, Son Sen, and colleagues were staying. My body was beaten and poked with iron bars; blood was all over my face and body. His Excellency Son Sen and my other colleagues were also attacked from every side by henchmen, murderers, criminals—who were special troops and police of Vietnam and its puppets—for over seven hours, right in the middle of Phnom Penh and in broad daylight.

Still, I myself and the PDK continue to struggle to join the SNC, chaired by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, and join UNTAC to continue working in Phnom Penh in the struggle to get the Paris agreement genuinely implemented correctly and comprehensively.

Respected and beloved compatriots are all aware of how I and the PDK have struggled all the time in the SNC. I and the PDK have fought with UNTAC chief Akashi and with other important UNTAC representatives, and demanded that the Paris agreement be implemented. You are aware of this. I and the PDK have been working to defend the Paris agreement and to get people to implement the agreement within the framework of the SNC. We have done this in front of UNTAC, the representatives of the permanent five members of the UN Security Council, and diplomats representing other countries. Compatriots know about all this.

Respected and beloved compatriots are also aware that we were facing many obstacles before we could set up my house and working place in Phnom Penh, and that of the PDK. There were many problems with finding the land and starting the construction; problems were also encountered in getting water and electricity. At the place we stayed, henchmen of the Vietnamese and their puppets show their faces; display their pistols, dark glasses, black leather jackets; and ride motorcycles and cars to constantly intimidate and to frighten the PDK. These sorts of things went on endlessly during the 17 months I and the PDK worked in Phnom Penh.

In the past few days in particular, Akashi himself verbally threatened me and the PDK at the meeting of the SNC. Puppet Hun Sen, great traitor and 100 percent seller of the nation to Vietnam, at the order of the Hanoi Vietnamese and relying on the backing of allies in and outside UNTAC, also made efforts to bloat himself like a toad and shouted at the SNC meeting for UNTAC to immediately arrest Khmer Rouge leaders, and so on.

This is the situation of the struggle to implement the Paris agreement of the PDK and of the Cambodian nation and people. It is a struggle to brave big and small difficulties of all sorts for the past 17 months. Still, UNTAC and its outside allies, the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets and lackeys have not at all implemented the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement. In particular, they have not implemented the basic major points:

1. Verification that all Vietnamese aggressor forces have been withdrawn from Cambodia;

2. A role for the quadripartite Cambodian SNC as the legitimate and the sole source of power representing Cambodia's sovereignty during the transitional period.

The four parties' presence in the SNC is for national reconciliation among the four Cambodian parties and to represent Cambodia's sovereignty. It is not for Vietnam's puppets to represent Cambodia's sovereignty the way UNTAC has made efforts to preserve Vietnam's puppets over the past 17 months.

On 7 April, the UN secretary general and Akashi declared the UNTAC election campaign open. It is the start of the competition to fight one another for power. It is therefore a time when the PDK no longer has any obligation to remain in Phnom Penh because the PDK has declared that it will not get involved in this UNTAC election.

In fact this UNTAC election has been prepared in order to maintain Vietnam's puppet regime in accordance with a result which has already been determined; that is, Vietnam's puppets would get the majority of votes—between 70 and 80 percent—while the reamining votes would go to other parties that agree to cooperate with the Vietnamese aggressors and Vietnam's puppets and lackeys. Thus, the mission of the PDK in Phnom Penh to fight for the Paris agreement's implementation has been suspended.

This is why I and my colleagues representing the PDK working in the SNC in Phnom Penh have to leave the city and return to our base.

On this occasion, I, on behalf of the PDK, would like to reaffirm that the PDK is still satisfied with the essence of the Paris agreement and also unswervingly wants the Paris agreement implemented correctly, meticulously, and comprehensively; and that the PDK gladly accepts the four-party national reconciliation plan of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman.

I myself, Son Sen, and the PDK continue to respect and love the prince, who is a national conciliator and a prince leading the nation and people toward the royal crusade for Cambodia's peace, independence, and sovereignty with territorial integrity. The PDK has made efforts to be assiduous and consistent in negotiations, talks, and discussion during the 17 months of the Paris agreement's implementation. The PDK does this in the country as well as outside the country; within the SNC; with UNTAC leaders; and with diplomats representing the five permanent members of the UN Security Council; and with other diplomats accredited to the SNC. It has made efforts to implement the motto: Meet to talk and discuss; talk again and again; negotiate again and again; and discuss again and again the essence of the Paris agreement.

The PDK carries out this task for the survival of the Cambodian nation, people, and race with a lofty spirit of responsibility without any consideration to its own interest.

Now the enemy is trying again and again to block the implementation of the Paris agreement. Therefore, my mission and that of the PDK in Phnom Penh has to be suspended. This is why I wrote a letter to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, informing him about our withdrawal from Phnom Penh back to our base at a time when UNTAC is staging a theatrical and dangerous farce. I and my colleagues left Phnom Penh in order to avoid our names being connected to or involved with this unjust UNTAC election.

On this occasion, on leaving Phnom Penh and upon arriving back at the DK base, now and in the future, I will not forget the good deeds of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, and all compatriots inside and outside the country, particularly compatriots in Phnom Penh, for their contributions, assistance, and support to various activities to contribute to the struggle to see that the Paris agreement is implemented as well as to the struggle for Cambodia's survival, independence, peace, and neutrality with territorial integrity to prevent Cambodia—its nation, people, and race—from being destroyed and exterminated as in the case of Kampuchea Kraom [former Cambodian territory now part of southern Vietnam].

It is with these sentiments that I would like to bow respectfully to express thanks for the royal deeds of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, who is the leader of the nation and the people, a conciliator prince, and a symbol giving moral and physical support to us and the PDK, and to the entire Cambodian nation and people in the struggle to genuinely implement the Paris agreement correctly, comprehensively, and meticulously, as well as for Cambodia's peace, independence, neutrality, and territorial integrity.

Also on this occasion, I would like to express thanks to the clergy throughout the country, particularly in Phnom Penh, for its moral assistance and support to the national resistance forces, to the DK, and to myself, in the struggle to see that the Paris agreement is implemented as well as in the struggle for the survival of the Cambodian nation, people, and race as a nation, people, and race.

Also on this occasion, I would like to express my profound and most sincere thanks to all compatriots inside and outside the country for their sentiments, political and moral assistance, and their support through various concrete activities to the struggle of the PDK to see that the people genuinely implement the Paris agreement comprehensively, correctly, and meticulously, so that Cambodia has peace and independence, and so that the Cambodian nation and people do not perish because of Vietnam, Vietnam's puppets, and its allies inside and outside UNTAC.

On this occasion, I would also like to express special thanks to all compatriots in Phnom Penh. It is our compatriots in Phnom Penh who have expressed their sentiments and political gestures to provide assistance and support to us, who carry out activities in Phnom Penh to demand a correct, comprehensive, meticulous, and genuine implementation of the Paris agreement. Our compatriots have constantly encouraged me and the PDK. This is a mighty moral and political force enabling me and the PDK to have the strength to cooperate with the nation, the people, and our resistance forces to continue the struggle for Cambodia's independence, peace, and neutrality with territorial integrity and for a Cambodia that has national reconciliation in accordance with the plan of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, and for a peaceful, independent, and sovereign Cambodia with territorial integrity under the prince's lofty leadership.

Also on this occasion, I would like to express my thanks to the diplomats from many countries for their efforts, through concrete activities or sympathy, to provide assistance and support to all efforts to genuinely implement the Paris agreement comprehensively, correctly, and meticulously. These diplomats genuinely stand on the side of justice and peace. We would like to express our great thanks for this.

On this occasion, I also do not forget, and will never forget, the majority of UNTAC representatives, particularly those from Third World countries, for expressing, through concrete activities or sympathy, assistance and support to the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement in accordance with their respective ability and competence. They are the correct and just ones; they are peace-loving persons. I would like to express thanks directly to them, and through them, sincere thanks to their respective governments and people.

History and the real situation occurring during Vietnam's aggression and occupation of Cambodia over the past 13 years, and the 17 months added to it by UNTAC, and successive situations have shown that the entire Cambodian nation and the 8 million Cambodian people inside and outside the country, in cities and rural areas, on the plains and in remote areas, and in all places have been fighting and will continue to fight to see that the Paris agreement is implemented correctly and meticulously so that Cambodia will genuinely have peace, independence, and neutrality with territorial integrity.

The entire Cambodian nation and the 8 million Cambodian people will absolutely not bow their heads and let the Cambodian nation and people be killed and the Cambodian race exterminated like in Kampuchea Kraom. This is the sacred and profound pledge of us all.

Field Officials Report, UNTAC Denies Threats

BK1604101493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1006 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 16 (AFP)—The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) said officially Friday that Khmer Rouge guerrillas have not threatened to kill UN personnel. But UN officials reached by telephone in the northwest resistance zone of

Thmar Puok said Khmer Rouge guerrillas put up two posters on trees warning Cambodian civilians not to vote in the May 23-27 elections and warning UNTAC not to go ahead with the vote.

"One said, 'Do not go to vote on May 23 and be careful of grenades and rocket launchers,'" an official who saw the posters said. "The other said, 'UNTAC, do not hold the elections and be careful,'" said the official, who declined to be identified.

But in Phnom Penh, UNTAC spokesman Eric Falt denied the posters were threatening and scolded reporters who obtained the information through direct sources. "They (the posters) say UNTAC should see that people do not want the election and that UNTAC should leave. They don't threaten anybody," he said.

The threats confirm testimony of UNTAC electoral workers throughout the country that Khmer Rouge guerrillas have indirectly threatened them with death if they continue their work. A number have resigned, casting doubt on the technical feasability of holding the elections. UN officials are considering using military observers rather than civilians, and limiting polling to safe areas in provincial capitals.

Some provinces will have no polling at all if security cannot be assured, the electoral workers said. At the daily UNTAC briefing, Falt chided journalists for obtaining information through other channels than the spokesman's office, calling it "really crazy." "First of all, let me say I see a lot of you obtaining police reports or military reports. What you see in a report is not something that is necessarily confirmed," he said. "As of now, even though we have serious doubts, there's no proof that anybody has a policy to want to disrupt the elections," Falt said.

Japanese Forces Fear Attack, Withdraw From Quarry

OW1504140193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1333 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 15 KYODO—Japanese peacekeepers are being withdrawn to their headquarters in southern Cambodia from a quarry further north that could be threatened by guerrilla attack, the head of the Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) said Thursday. Tetsuya Nishimoto said peacekeepers who were quarrying stones for road repairs are being pulled back to Takeo, 40 kilometers away and home base for the Japanese contingent. Although Nishimoto noted that the area has become unsafe, he attributed the withdrawal to difficulties of working in such conditions during the coming rainy season. He made no explicit link to recent attacks by the Khmer Rouge on members of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC). Nishimoto, at a news conference, said the situation in Cambodia has deteriorated to the point that, "we want to take thorough safety measures." Japan's second contingent of 600 forces recently arrived and was preparing to start repairing roads and bridges damaged in 13 years of war from next Tuesday. The first contingent of 600 engineering troops returned to Japan this month after a six-month tour of duty.

Consider Carrying Weapons

OW1604031993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0256 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 16 KYODO—The Khmer Rouge is mobilizing its forces in nearly half of Cambodia's provinces in preparation for a military offensive to disrupt next month's elections, United Nations peacekeeping sources said here Friday. The assessment emerged from reports in the Pol Pot faction-controlled provinces in northern and western Cambodia by soldiers of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) and civilian police.

They reported the mobilization of the anti-Phnom Penh government troops and UNTAC officials being denied admission into the guerrilla faction's strongholds, the sources said. Gen. Ta Mok, the hard-line military commander of the Khmer Rouge, is reportedly mustering forces along the Thai border in northern Prey Vihear Province, the sources said.

UNTAC is considering withdrawing its five cease-fire monitors from Pailin in Battambang Province following the Pol Pot faction's decision to close its office in Phnom Penh and pull its representatives out of the Cambodian capital, the sources said. That would appear to signal a collapse in the dialogue between UNTAC and the Pol Pot faction, and endanger the Paris peace accord signed by the Khmer Rouge and three other Cambodian factions in 1991 in an attempt to end 13 years of civil war.

UNTAC was established to oversee the peace process in which the general elections next month were to be a major step in setting up a representative government in Phnom Penh. The Khmer Rouge, however, has refused to demobilize its forces and said it would boycott the elections, insisting that Vietnamese troops have not fully withdrawn from the nation as stipulated in the accords.

In recent weeks, the Pol Pot faction has been blamed for a number of attacks on U.N. peacekeepers, including the murder of one U.N. election monitor from Japan. Military sources with the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh government said the Khmer Rouge is likely to expand its attacks on national highways in the provinces of Battambang, Kompong Thom, Siem Reap and Prey Vihear in an effort to make it impossible for people to get to polling stations.

Meanwhile in Tokyo, Defense Agency officials are moving closer to allowing Japanese peacekeepers in Cambodia to carry weapons to defend themselves. Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel, in Cambodia to help with the reconstruction of highways and bridges, took weapons along, but they have been stored at SDF headquarters.

Agency officials said Friday they are now considering letting the SDF personnel keep the guns with them in their tents as a "self-defense measure." On Thursday, UNTAC ordered all U.N. civilian police to carry pistols to defend themselves against possible attacks by guerrilla forces.

Japan's peacekeeping cooperation law, which was enacted last June, permits SDF personnel to carry small weapons similar to those carried by peacekeeping participants from other countries. They may use the weapons only in self-defense. The law bans SDF participation in operations that might involve military action. To lift the ban, new legislation would be required.

UN: Election Campaign Off to Nonviolent Start

BK1504120493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1112 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 15 (AFP)—The United Nations said Thursday that the political campaign for Cambodia's upcoming elections was off to a non-violent start. One week after full campaigning began for the May 23-27 polls, not one case of disruption or harassment of a political meeting has been reported, U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) spokesman Eric Berman said.

"UNTAC considers this an encouraging sign of hope amid the tension and violence of the last few weeks," he said. "It appears that thousands of Cambodians throughout the country are peacefully engaging in multi-party activities without violence or clashes."

About 200 meetings and political rallies have been held in various provinces since April 7. The largest was a rally by the government's Cambodian People's Party (CPP) in the capital Monday, which 10,000 people attended, Berman said.

The rallies have been held primarily by the CPP, and by three parties opposing the government—the royalist FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaeful, and Cooperative Cambodia], Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party (BLDP).

FUNCINPEC is the largest opposition party and is loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk. The LDP and BLDP are spin-offs from the Khmer People's National Liberation Front resistance faction headed by former prime minister Son Sann, to whom the BLDP is still loyal.

Sixteen other Cambodian political parties, most of them relatively small with overseas support, are contesting in the elections. The presence of UNTAC personnel at the rallies was helping to deter violence, Berman said.

In the southern province of Takeo, the head of FUNCINPEC, Prince Sihanouk's son Prince Norodom Ranariddh, flew in by private helicopter Thursday to address a rally of 5,000 people, U.N. and party officials said. "A vote for FUNCINPEC is a vote for Prince Sihanouk," a senior party official quoted him as saying. "If you accuse FUNCINPEC of being Khmer Rouge, you accuse Prince Sihanouk of being Khmer Rouge," he said. FUNCINPEC was allied with the Khmer Rouge in the 13-year civil war against Phnom Penh government forces, and its army is occasionally reported by UNTAC to be fighting with Khmer Rouge forces against the government in central Kompong Thom province.

Part of the government's campaign tactic is to link FUNCINPEC with the Khmer Rouge and claim its own loyalty to Prince Sihanouk, whom many Cambodians still revere. The Khmer Rouge are blamed for the deaths of up to one million Cambodians during their fanatical rule from 1975 to 1979, when the Vietnamese invaded to oust them. They have refused to take part in the elections, calling them a farce that will only rubber-stamp what they call the continued Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia.

Government, CPP Set To Split Properties

BK1504125193 Phnom Penh CAMBODIA TIMES in English 29 Mar-4 Apr 93 p 24

[By John Souza]

[Text] Phnom Penh—Static and movable properties used by the government and the ruling Cambodia People's Party are to be formally split between the two. This is seen as the latest move in the continuing efforts to separate the party from the government as the country moves from a single to a multi-party state. The National Assembly decided on the split at its sitting at the end of January, and documents of the session have just been made public.

The decisions relate to property occupied or used by the government and party after the Vietnamese withdrawal in 1989 until the date of the coming into law of the property division. The division is based on possession, and each party is to make a complete inventory.

The new law in effect makes all major landmarks, buildings, and installations here and in the provinces, public property. It leaves the party offices and some villas occupied by those involved in party-work to the party, which will have to maintain them at its own expenses from now on.

Until the Vietnamese arrived to oust the Khmer Rouge, Phnom Penh was almost like a ghost city. Many owners had been victims in the killing fields, and returnees occupied empty buildings, subsequently claiming ownership because no one else had laid claim.

Government Employees Allowed To Run in Polls

BK1504130293 Phnom Penh CAMBODIA TIMES in English 29 Mar-4 Apr 93 p 1

[By Bala Chandran]

[Text] Government employee may take active part in politics including offering themselves as candidates for

public office while in service. However, they are not allowed to indulge in politics while in uniform or use government facilities to promote their parties.

This was confirmed in a directive issued by the Ministry of National Security to policemen on their participation in the country's first general elections in two decades. The elections which are scheduled to be held in late May are conducted by the United Nations, and 20 parties have signed up to take part.

The ministry directive, termed as the fundamental political right and duty of policemen, says it was issued to tighten and maintain neutral political environment before and during the elections.

It says policemen have all the rights as other citizens. Thus they can join any political party of their choice, hold office and stand for elections. They are however prohibited from politicking during working hours, in uniform, in places of work or use government funds, equipment and property. They may not also use their position in furtherance of their political belief.

They may hold meetings at work places provided all others in the specific place belong to the same political party. In their work, they should be neutral and enforce the laws of the country, providing protection and help to all those needing it.

Policemen found going aginst the directive will be punished according to norms by their immediate superiors. The ministry directive also quoted UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] guideline which says that all politically related complaints should first be referred to UNTAC and investigated in a neutral manner.

Policemen found guilty of political offences will be listed in the ministry, and the list will be open for inspection by UNTAC. A Govermnent spokesman says that all government servants will enjoy similar privileges, unlike in some countries where serving public servants cannot stand for office.

Indonesia

Meeting: No Plan To Withdraw PK Troops in Cambodia

BK1604061493 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] A ministerial level working meeting on politics and security held in Jakarta yesterday had indicated that the Indonesian Government would not withdraw its Garuda XII-C UN peacekeeping [PK] troops in Cambodia even though the condition there is worsening.

Sosilo Sudarman, coordinating minister for politics and security, who chaired the meeting, said that only the UN Security Council can decide whether or not to pull out a UN peacekeeping force from Cambodia. He said Indonesia will continue to contribute its efforts to solve the Cambodian issue. However, Indonesia's national interest should take precedence before other interests.

Armed Forces Commander General Edi Sudrajat told newsmen that there is a possibility that ABRI [Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia] will make an evaluation of what is happening in Cambodia. According to the commander, although fighting has escalated in Cambodia, the risk facing the Indonesian troops is not very high, and ABRI will continue to monitor developments there.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said that he will try to contact French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas [as heard] to discuss the latest situation in Cambodia.

Indonesia and France are co-chairmen of the Paris conference on Cambodia.

Minister: No Certainty Yet on Hawk Purchase

BK1604073293 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0635 GMT 16 Aug 93

[Excerpt] Langsa, N. Sumatera, Apr 16 (ANTARA)—State Minister for Research and Technology B.J. Habibie has said that the purchase of 100 hawk jet fighters is not as yet certain as Indonesia is not able to set aside the required funds for them.

The purchase of the 100 British-aerospace fighters is part of the country's long term development planning. We have now one and a half squadrons of hawk fighters which eventually would be enlarged by one or two more squadrons, he told reporters after a dinner party held at the East Aceh administration's building, Thursday.

The minister said after reaching a fairly high economic growth, Indonesia's wish to own six squadrons can be materialized. One squadron would compose of 16 to 20 aircraft, he said. [passage omitted]

E. Timor Rebel Leader Agrees to All Charges

BK1504161793 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] At the resumption of his trial in Dili District Court today, East Timorese independence leader Jose Alexander Gusmao, alias Xanana Gusmao, agreed to all charges against him written in the indictment read before him during a cross examination by judges and prosecutors. During the trial, the council of judges was chaired by Hendrimus Godang SH [master of law].

Today's trial proceeded in a more relaxed atmosphere, compared to previous sessions.

When asked to answer questions during the cross examination, Xanana appeared to be calm and relaxed. His humor drew laughter from the council of judges and visitors, which included six foreigners from the embassies of the United States, Australia, and the Netherlands.

Gives Evidence

BK1604112293 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0803 GMT 16 Apr 93

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] The captured East Timorese independence leader, Xanana Gusmao, has given evidence for the first time in his 10-week old trial on rebellion, conspiracy, separatist, and firearms charges. Mr. Gusmao had told the Dili District Court that he was the overall commander of the movement which has long opposed Indonesian rule in the former Portuguese colony annexed by Jakarta in 1976. From Dili, Ian Macintosh sent this report read by Tony Hastings.

[Begin Hastings recording] If Xaxana Gusmao's supporters were hoping he would use his first appearance in the witness box to contradict the evidence already given against him or to speak out against his Indonesian captors, they would have been disappointed. His 80 minutes in the well-guarded courtroom during the 15th sitting of this much-publicized trial were very much in keeping with his conduct of the previous session. His brief answers in Portuguese translated into Indonesian by an interpreter seated beside him were in response to questions put by the three trial judges, the prosecutor, and his own defense lawyer. Mr. Gusmao at no time challenged the evidence given in recent weeks by the 19 prosecution witnesses nor did he criticize the government against whom he led a bitter and often bloody guerrilla campaign for the majority of the past 17 years.

Xanana Gusmao was repeatedly asked about the evolution and structure of the independence movement he headed until his capture last November. He responded with details including the fact that Fretilin [Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor] and other pro-independence bodies had been reorganized into the Maubere National Resistance Council five years ago. A move, the captured rebel chief said, had been made to unite and pacify the various Timorese groups opposed to Indonesian rule. And in response to questions from the judges, he twice identified himself as the movement's supreme commander.

Asked whether he had known East Timor had been integrated into Indonesia, Mr. Gusmao hesitated before saying he knew it much later than the 1976 and 1977 dates mentioned by the chief judge. But he was not specifically asked about nor did he recognize that integration as he had done during an Indonesian television interview last December prompting claims by his supporters and human rights groups that he had been tortured or otherwise coerced into making such a statement.

Questioned about the weapons used by the armed wing of the East Timor independence movement, Mr. Gusmao denied they had been obtained overseas. Instead, he said they had been stolen from the Portuguese military before its 1975 departure from the territory or captured from Indonesia's Armed Forces troops. The defendant confirmed that a rifle and pistol produced in the court had been in his possession prior to his capture. [end recording]

Satellite Project Encounters Major Obstacles

BK1504114893 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 6 Apr 93 p 8

[By Handono Tedja]

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—Indonesia is still undecided about whether it will grant a contract to the Hughes Corporation of the United States or its American competitor GE Astro Space to make the first C-generation Palapa communication satellite. Similarly, the government has yet to make a decision on whether to use the American Atlas rocket, the French Arianespace or the Chinese Long March to launch the Palapa-C satellite in 1995.

The delay indicates the Ministry of Tourism, Post and Telecommunications is facing huge obstacles in creating an atmosphere that is conducive to improving the national telecommunications system and its facilities.

The main obstacles to achieve this goal comprise legal, technical and operational bottlenecks which greatly affect the newly- established satellite operating company PT [Limited Company] Satelindo and its plan to purchase and launch the new satellite.

State-owned PT Telekomunikasi Indonesia (Telkom) previously monopolized domestic telecommunications' operations while its sister company offered international services. The newly-established PT Satelindo groups PT Bima Graha of the widely-diversified PT Bimantara Citra (60 percent), Telkom (30 percent) and PT Indosat (10 percent).

A earlier agreement gave Telkom, which is under the supervision of the ministry, the right to decide which company would manufacture the satellite and which rocket would launch the device. Satelindo agreed to finance and later operate the satellite, but the proposed agreement apparently didn't work well.

The birth of Satelindo, created to operate the Palapa series telecommunications satellites, beginning with the C generation, is the first, precedent-setting joint venture agreement between a private company and the two companies monopolizing telecommunications services in the country.

The legal bottlenecks stem from the varying interpretations of the present telecommunications laws and regulations amongst experts. Some of these experts still believe that the 1945 Constitution and the telecommunications law (No. 3/1992) limit the delivery of telecommunications services to state companies only. Meanwhile, 60 percent of Satelindo's shares are held by the private company Bima Graha.

Others point out that state control over telecommunication services should not be merely ruled by a policy

allowing only state- owned companies to offer the services, but should take a broader approach. The fact that the regulations emanating from the telecommunications law have just been drafted poses an extra burden on the ministry. The ministry can only grant the principal license to Satelindo after the regulations are tabled. which happened last month.

The ministry, as the regulatory body, is facing a host of other problems, including dealing with the issue that Satelindo offers services which the state-owned company, Indosat, has offered for the past 20 years. The possibility of market infringement might become an issue, but given the fact that the business volume for international telecommunications' services is expanding rapidly Indosat is expected to be too busy to spare time for these less substantive negotiations.

The ministry will ensure that both Telkom and Indosat undergo major technical adjustments at the operational level.

Presently when a client makes an international call, he or she does not know whether their call is being transmitted by satellite or submarine cable network. The equipment at the exchange automatically searches for an available line, whether it be via satellite or submarine cable. The caller receives only one bill from Telkom which covers the telephone charges for one month—including local, long distance and international calls. Telkom then pays Indosat for the international communication charges.

Consequently, after Satelindo becomes operational, Telkom will have to install a device which determines whether an international call has been transmitted through Indosat's network or through Satelindo's facilities. At present, Telkom has no such equipment.

The payment system, in which Telkom records all charges and Indosat later claims its share, obviously needs adjusting with the operation of Satelindo looming in the future.

Private Companies To Enter Satellite Business

BK1604092493 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0648 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Jakarta, Apr 16 (OANA/ANTARA)—Tourism, Post and Telecommunications Minister Joop Ave said here Thursday that private companies have been formally allowed to enter the lucrative satellite business due to the government's limited budget for the sector.

This, therefore, will allow a private company like PT [Company Limited] Satelindo to handle the procurement of the Palapa C telecommunications satellite, Ave told the press after reporting to the president the plan to sign a contract on Palapa C between Hughes Aircraft Company and the Bimantara Citra Business Group.

Under the 128 million US dollars deal, Hughes Communications International Incorporation, a subsidiary of the Hughes Aircraft Company, will be responsible for the supply of the first satellite of the HS 601 series by August 1995 and of the second one in February 1996.

Bimantara Citra's subsidiaries PT Satelindo and its sister company PT Pasisik Satelit Nusantara, however, will have to reconfirm their option on the third satellite by 1999.

Palapa C will have 34 transponders which will be capable of covering not only the Indonesian archipelago but also some Southeast Asian countries, India, Japan, Korea, part of China, Australia and New Zealand.

The involvement of private companies in the Palapa C deal several months ago caused a controversy because although PT Satelindo is a joint venture involving two state-owned enterprises and one private company, the state is a minority shareholder.

Legislators said, according to the state law, only the government or the state company has the sole authority to oversee telecommunications.

And although the law allows the government to enter into joint ventures with the private sector, it has to remain the majority shareholder, they said.

In the case of PT Satelindo, the government is the minority as it holds only 40 percent of the shares through PT Telkom and PT Indosat.

However, the government in order to settle the legal problem has recently revised the existing law to allow the private sector to participate in telecommunications service.

Director general for post and telecommunications Jakaria Purawijaya said other companies will be able to enter the sector and PT Satelindo will not hold a monopoly in operating satellites.

Joop Ave said if the government has to be responsible for the funding of Palapa C, it will not be able to finance other activities in the telecommunications sector.

"This is something which must be well understood," he said, adding that the government technically will continue to be the supervisor of the Palapa project.

In the Palapa deal, Hughes Aircraft Company will also have to offset the making of the satellite components at a minimum of 28.5 percent of the total contract value to Indonesia's Nusantara Aircraft manufacturer (IPTN).

The offset deal includes the making of the machine components, bonded panels, wire harnesses, thrust rings, thrust cylinders, solar panel substrates, power electronics units and electronic power conditioners.

Four Books Banned To Avoid Religious Conflict

BK1504121593 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] The Attorney General's Office has banned the circulation of a book titled Berhati-Hati Membuat

Tuduhan [Use Caution in Filing Legal Charges] by Ashari Mohamed because it may cause conflicts between Muslims, while its contents run counter to Koran and Hadis [Islamic tradition based on the Prophet Mohamed's life]. In its press release, the Attorney General's Office has also banned the circulation of another book titled [name indistinct] by H.M. Kori, because it may lead to misunderstanding of Islamic teachings.

The Attorney General's Office also announced the banning of a book titled Menyingkap Sosok Misionaris [Unmasking the Missionary Organizations] by Ibrahim Sulaiman because it may provoke the feelings of certain religious followers to commit illegal acts. Also banned is a book titled Sajian Tuntutan Tuhan Pada Jaman Akhir [God's Demands in the Latter Days] by Hasbir Suharno because it carries incorrect intrepretations of Koranic verses. Members of the public who keep, circulate, sell or reprint such books are urged to surrender them to the Public Prosecutor's Office, the District Prosecutor's Office, police, or other security authorities.

Philippines

Ramos Exempts Power Projects From Currency Act

HK1604031093 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 16 Apr 93 pp 1, 5

[Report by Maricar S. Bautista, Estela B. de la Paz and Sheila A. Samonte]

[Text] President Ramos has exempted two power projects of Hopewell Power Corp [HPC] with a combined capacity of 700 megawatts (MW) from requirements under the Uniform Currency Act.

In a statement, presidential spokesperson Annabelle Abaya said Hopewell's request for exemption was granted by the President at the recent National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) board meeting.

The two projects are part of the 700-MW Pagbilao coal-fired plant which will be operational on September 30, 1993 and January 31, 1994.

The exemption "will grant the use of U.S. dollars in the payment of Government's monetary obligations to HPC, when its two power projects in Pagbilao, Quezon are completed," Ms Abaya said.

The Uniform Currency Act restricts the payment of monetary obligations under domestic contracts to Philippine legal currency.

The same act, however, also allows exemptions in four instances, including transactions affecting foreign-funded high-priority agricultural, industrial and power development projects as determined by NEDA and transactions involving proceeds of loans or investments from foreign governments, their agencies and instrumentalities, and international banks and financial institutions.

Ms Abaya said the request was granted because:

—Hopewell's coal-fired power projects, which have a combined capacity of 700 MW, are priority power development projects and are registered with the Board of Investments as "pioneer projects,"

—Both parties will generate reasonably priced electricity at a cost of P1.987 per kilowatt hour, P0.0395 lower than the National Power Corp average generating cost; and

—The $888-million Pagbilao power projects fall under the build- operate transfer scheme.

Government Concedes to IMF on Growth Targets

HK1604030793 Quezon City MALAYA in English 16 Apr 93 p 13

[Report by Lou Palpal-Latoc]

[Text] The failed pump-priming program and unsolved power crisis has forced the government to accept the International Monetary Fund's prescribed lower growth rate of three percent for this year.

Finance Secretary Ramon del Rosario said that the growth target needed to be scaled down because of drop in production and investments.

The IMF growth target is more realistic as they had stated from the start of negotiations since February.

"Perhaps they (IMF negotiators) have clearer crystal ball than we have," del Rosario said.

The pump-priming program which was supposed to counteract the decline in investments and production due to power crisis failed because the government agencies involved were ill-prepared to implement the project.

The Department of Public Works and Highways, for instance was unable to attend to its infrastructure projects because of its reorganization.

The government has decided to scale down its growth target mainly because of the worsening of the power crisis which lasted up to eight to 10 hours. When the 4.5 percent growth rate was inputted, the government negotiators were expecting brownouts to last from four to five hours.

As of February, the government negotiators were only anticipating power deficiency of 2,568 megawatts for the first semester. Recent reports by the Department of Energy, however, shows that the power deficiency for the first semester will double to 5,042 megawatts.

The government also downscaled its growth targets for personal consumption from 4 to 3.8 percent; government consumption from 1 to 0.8 percent; imports from 7.3 to 6.3 percent and investments from 11 to 8 percent. The government is optimistic that the growth target for exports will remain a 4.5 percent this year.

As a result of the reduction in growth target, the government also expects a reduction in government revenues from P286.1 billion [Philippine pesos] to P283.1 billion.

The expenditures will also be reduced from P311.7 billion to P308.7 billion to maintain a budget deficit of P25.6 billion.

Del Rosario also said that the World Bank is considering the reopening of negotiations on suspended loans and on new loans.

The 17-centavo power rate hike will improve the return to rate base of the cash-strapped power firm by 7.7 percent. The World Bank wants an RORB [return on rate base] of eight percent.

Top Exports Increase 13.85 Percent in Jan

HK1504134593 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 15 apr 93 p 14

[Text] The country's top ten exports registered a 13.85% growth to $338.332 million last January from $297.164 million in the same month last year. Semi-conductor devices continued to top the list with $69.17 million in receipts.

Based on the Central Bank (CB) data, eight out of the ten items posted increases from their year ago levels. In contrast, other electronic integrated circuits (ICs) and microassemblies, and copper metal recorded declines of 19.45% and 31.96%, respectively.

The highest year-on-year growth was registered by coco oil exports at 54.40%. This was followed by consigned men's wear at 49.76%.

Furthermore, other electronic devices and input/output peripheral units joined the top dollar earner last January, displacing electronic microcircuits and ignition wiring sets.

The top three export commodities in January 1992 were semi- conductor devices, other electronic ICs, and finished electrical/machinery and parts.

As this developed, Government is set to scale down its targeted 13.70% growth in exports this year due to the continuing power crisis. To offset the losses from the sectors that are heavily dependent on electricity, it will promote the growth of non-power intensive industries such as agriculture.

Government is also keen on grooming "export champions" by removing tariff duties on imported raw material requirements of these local products. One criterion it had established in determining these "export champions" is the level of dollar earnings.

TEN PRINCIPAL EXPORTS

January 1993 (In thousand U.S. dollars)

	Jan 1993	Jan 92	% Chge
1. Semiconductor devices	69,169	58,037	19.18
2. Coconut oil (crude and refined)	48,119	31,166	54.40
3. Other electronic integrated circuits and microassemblies	38,257	47,497	(19.45)
4. Finished electrical and electronic machinery and parts manufactured from materials imported on consignment	33,181	31,391	5.70
5. Consigned women's wear	31,303	25,568	22.43
6. Consigned men's wear	29,439	19,657	49.76
7. Articles of apparel or textile fabrics	25,384	23,854	6.41
8. Consigned children's and infants' wear	25,373	21,807	16.35
9. Input/output peripheral units whether or not presented with the rest of the system	19,971	11,533	73.16
10. Copper metal	18,136	26,654	(31.96)
Total	338,332	297,164	13.85

Source: Central Bank

Labor Group Rallies Against Power Rate Hike

HK1504110093 Quezon City MALAYA in English 15 Apr 93 p 2

[Text] The Kilusang Mayo Uno [May 1 Movement—KMU] will start today a series of street rallies in Metro Manila to protest the 18 centavos per kilowatt-hour increase in power rates approved by the Energy Regulatory Board [ERB].

A petition will also be filed before the Supreme Court today to stop the National Power Corp. [Napocor] from collecting the new rates.

"We will definitely do our utmost in opposing the unconscionable increase in power rates by calling for a sustained and vigorous series of protest actions," said Crispin Beltran, chairman of the Kilusang Mayo Uno.

Beltran said a rally will be held at Plaza Miranda this afternoon to be followed by a march to Mendiola bridge.

The Trade Union Congress of the Philippines [TUCP], on the other hand, refused to say what actions their group would take against the new rates.

A meeting is set today between the TUCP and the Labor Advisory and Consultative Council, which includes KMU, to arrive at a common stand on the rate increases.

Beltran said the new power rates which would be collected starting April 26 is "baseless and unreasonable."

Energy officials have said the new rates would translate into an extra 24 centavos in the billing when Meralco [Manila Electric Company] charges are included.

The labor leader assailed the ERB for "conspiring" with Malacanang in resorting to "unwarranted legal shortcuts" in allowing Napocor to raise power rates.

The ERB allowed Napocor to collect 5.57 centavos per kilowatt-hour a day after President Ramos signed into law the Electric Power Crisis Act of 1993.

Napocor said it would collect the 5.57 centavos per kilowatt-hour and another 12.43 centavos per kilowatt-hour to recover losses from 1991 to 1992.

Singapore Company Inaugurates New Shipyard

BK1504114693 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 15 Apr 93 p 2

[By Manila correspondent Reginald Chua]

[Text] Manila—[Singapore] Keppel Corporation yesterday formally inaugurated an expanded shipyard in the Philippines and said it planned to increase its investments here in a wide range of activities.

"Keppel Philippines will actively pursue investment opportunities in other business activities like engineering services, energy projects, infrastructure operations, banking and financial services," said Mr. Jose Bengzon, chairman of Keppel Philippines Holdings, the group's umbrella company here.

Yesterday's inauguration ceremonies, held in a stiff breeze at the shipyard in Batangas province, south of Manila, marked the formal opening of a new yard, privatised last year for 668 million pesos by the state-owned Philippine National Oil Company. The yard was amalgamated with Keppel's existing facilities in Batangas and renamed Kepphil Shipyard Inc.

Commodore (Reserve) Teo Chee Hean, minister of state for finance and communications, in a speech at the ceremonies, called the expansion an example of cooperation with others in the region as Singapore pursued its drive to encourage entrepreneurs and companies to invest overseas.

Keppel, which established its first yard in the Philippines in 1975, also has investments in a steel fabrication plant, a merchant bank, and a stockbroking firm, with a total market capitalisation and assets worth 2.2 billion pesos.

Keppel Chairman Sim Kee Boon told reporters yesterday the group was also interested in projects such as power barges, the copper slag industry as well as in the privatisation of the former U.S. naval base at Subic Bay. He said Keppel was discussing with the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore the possibility of helping Subic authorities operate the airport there.

Keppel is also planning to list on the local stock exchange its Kepphil subsidiary, a shipyard which offers ship repair and building facilities for small and medium-sized vessels.

President Ramos said that Philippine expertise in shipbuilding was an important element in the country's hopes to become another Asian "dragon" economy. He said that the shipyard demonstrated his government's commitment to privatisation.

"This is further evidence of the strengthened Philippine-Singapore economic partnership that resulted from my visit to that island state last February," he added.

DFA Official Confirms MNLF Chief in Indonesia

HK1604064093 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] A high-ranking Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA] official has confirmed that Nur Misuari, Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] chairman, went to Indonesia for the second part of exploratory peace talks with the government. Misuari was reportedly together with two of his companions from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia when they met with the government panel led by Congressman Eduardo Ermita.

Meanwhile, National Unification Commission Chairperson Haydee Yorac told DWIZ that the talks were not held in Jakarta.

The government panel is expected to return this afternoon from the exploratory talks which were pushed through with the blessings of President Fidel V. Ramos and Indonesian President Haji Mohamed Suharto.

Talks With NDF To Be Held in Hong Kong

HK1604073293 Quezon City MALAYA in English 15 Apr 93 pp 1, 2

[Report by Ellen Tordesillas]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Talks with the National Democratic Front [NDF] will be held soon in Hong

Kong, according to a Malacanang source. The government will be represented by Chairperson Haydee Yorac of the National Unification Commission [NUC], the source added. [passage omitted]

President Fidel V. Ramos said he has approved the holding of further exploratory talks with the NDF under the concept of shifting venue. 'We hope the NDF will agree to this equitable arrangement,' he said. [passage omitted]

The Malacanang source said the formula of shifting venue is being adopted because at this stage, 'the government feels that we have to bend a little backwards because we don't want the talks to bog down.'

Peace negotiations with both groups have not moved because the rebels are insisting on holding the talks abroad. The NUC wanted the talks held here so as not to internationalize the issue. [passage omitted]

With the NDF, the first round of talks was held also last year in Ultrecht, the Netherlands. The government was represented by Representatives Jose Yap (Liberal Democratic Party, Tarlac) and Eric Singson (Strength, Ilocos Sur).

The source said Yorac has taken over from Yap because 'she probably wants to take a more direct hand' in the peace negotiations.

Ramos Orders Gun-Smuggling Policemen Dismissed

HK1504141493 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in English 1300 GMT 15 Apr 93

[From the "ABC-DWET News" program]

[Text] At ground level, President Ramos appears to be in the firing mood as he puts on his other hat as the commander in chief. The president today ordered the dismissal of members of the Philippine National Police [PNP]-Cambodia contingent who may have smuggled high-powered firearms into the country. Some 89 PNP men face administrative and criminal charges for bringing in 80 pieces [as heard] of AK-47 assault rifles and M-16s when they returned last week from UN peace-keeping duties in Cambodia. The returning police officers had referred to the 80 combat firearms as souvenirs.

PNP Chief Raul Imperial himself, said the entry of the Russian and American-made guns was definitely illegal.

President Ramos also orders Director General Imperial to take a direct hand in resolving the long delay involving the murder of three young girls in La Union early this year. Five La Union policemen are accused of the killings but the trial has been held up because some vital evidence is missing.

Ramos Formalizes Appointment of PNP Chief

HK1404085793 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 14 Apr 93

[Text] President Fidel Ramos today announced the formal appointment of Philippine National Police [PNP] Chief Raul Imperial as director general.

Presidential spokesperson Annabelle Tecson-Abaya says the president formally issued the official appointment papers for Imperial's position.

Abaya said Imperial showed devotion to duty in leading the PNP.

[Begin Abaya recording] President Ramos also responded favorably to a Napolcom [national police command] resolution calling for the promotion of Deputy Director General Raul S. Imperial to director general. Director General Imperial was cited for exemplary devotion to duty and steady guidance of the PNP. [end recording]

Thailand

Prasong, U.S. Envoy Discuss Cambodia, Copyrights

BK1504144093 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Today, U.S. Ambassador David Floyd Lambertson called on Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri at the Foreign Ministry's reception room to discuss the Cambodian problem and express confidence in the Thai Government's ongoing efforts to earnestly solve the copyright problems before the deadline for revocation of the General System of Preference [GSP] at about the end of this month. The foreign minister took the opportunity to explain the decision of today's cabinet meeting on joining the Berne Convention and enacting a decree on pharmaceutical patents. The U.S. ambassador said he would report this progress to his government.

Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sakthip Krairoek reported that the United States is satisfied with the Thai Government's concrete and continuous efforts on the intellectual property question. He anticipated that the dispute on this matter will be resolved in a more favorable manner. Today the cabinet meeting approved an amendment of the law on copyright protection, which should result in the more effective resolution of trade problems with the United States.

Meanwhile, Government Spokesman Aphisit Wetchachiwa stated that Thailand will convey to the World Intellectual Property Organization its intention to demonstrate its copyright protection role and action. The government has also decided to amend the law to correct ambiguity and delay in the legal process, such as listing the signatories to the Berne Convention, improving protection conditions to comply with international practice, and amending the exercise of rights on the translation of literature to allow translation for

education and research purposes three years after publication of the original. The use of tape or other media for educational purposes needs no prior permission but compensation is required.

Prasong, U.S. Envoy Meet; KR Plan News Conference

BK1604020593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Apr 93 p 6

[Excerpts] Thailand has talked to the Khmer Rouge [KR] time and again but it is now up to the United Nations to persuade the guerrilla faction to rejoin the peace process, Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said yesterday.

The foreign minister pointed out that Thailand had made a number of attempts to persuade the Khmer Rouge to rejoin the peace process through talks with their leader Khieu Samphan.

He noted that the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) had supported negotiated efforts.

"But everything is now up to the United Nations," he said. "We hope they can solve the problem. We hope reconciliation will be obtained among all Cambodian parties," he added. [passage omitted]

The Khmer Rouge will hold a press conference in a liberated area in the extreme west of Cambodia on Saturday according to a statement released yesterday.

The absence of reconciliation among Cambodian parties has raised concern in Thailand and among ASEAN states about the repercussions on Cambodia in the period before and after the elections, the minister added.

An ASEAN meeting next month will discuss the issue, he said. Senior officials of the six member states Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand—are scheduled to meet in Singapore next month.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sakthip Krairoek said the meeting would discuss the prospects of a UN role in Cambodia after the elections. It will look at the strategy to be adopted by the UN and the role to be played by the permanent five members of the UN Security Council, he added.

Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States constitute the so-called Perm Five.

Foreign Minister Prasong made the remarks before US Ambassador David Lambertson urged the Thai Government to continue talks with the Khmer Rouge so as to bring about reconciliation among the four main Cambodian factions.

Ambassador Lambertson made the call during an hour-long meeting with Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong at the Foreign Ministry yesterday afternoon.

According to spokesman Sakthip, Sqn Ldr Prasong told the US envoy that Thailand had held several rounds of talks with the Khmer Rouge.

He also noted that they had pledged not to disrupt the elections, the spokesman added.

The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) has maintained that the elections will go ahead as scheduled, from May 23-28, despite the violence.

The US government will continue supporting the peace process despite the "worrisome" situation in Cambodia, Ambassador Lambertson told reporters after meeting with the minister.

The international community should support the process and the mission of UNTAC and make it clear that "violence from whatever source must end," he said.

The Cambodian issue will be raised in a meeting scheduled to take place here on Monday between Sqn Ldr Prasong Sunsiri and Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen.

Mr Qichen will be in Bangkok as a guest of the Foreign Ministry, from Sunday to Tuesday, prior to attending the 49th meeting of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) which opens on Wednesday, April 21.

Meanwhile, Armed Forces Supreme Commander Air Chief Marshal Woranat Aphichari received with reservation the request by United Nations Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali for Thailand to use its good offices to persuade the Khmer Rouge to rejoin the peace process.

He argued that persuasion should only be applied after the prospect of compliance has been established.

There is "no point" applying persuasion, even on a subject with whom one has close relations, if it is clear that the subject will not comply, he said.

Rejoining the peace process is a matter for the Khmer Rouge to decide, he added.

Thailand has abided by UN resolution and would like to see peace in Cambodia, he said.

Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Wimon Wongwanit denied allegations that Thailand supported the Khmer Rouge.

Peace will not be possible in Cambodia as long as there is no reconciliation among the four main factions, he said.

Asked about a possible new refugee influx, Gen Wimon said: "We will not take in any more."

Thailand gave asylum to some 370,000 Cambodians during the war which spanned 13 years. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata at the end of March presided over the end of a year-long repatriation operation.

U.S. 'Confused' by Thai IPR Initiatives

BK1604011993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Apr 93 pp 1, 3

[Text] The United States is still confused by Thai initiatives to suppress copyright violations in Thailand, Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon said yesterday.

Mr Uthai said it was worrying that the US could not distinguish between the action the current Government has taken in just six months in office to arrest copyright violators and that of the preceding 68 months.

He said Washington should realise by now that there were only a very few violations. Thailand has forbidden violators from selling products they copied without paying copyright fees and has issued Prime Minister's Office regulations requiring strict action against them.

Mr Uthai said Thailand would declare that the US was not granting it equal trade rights, something which is unacceptable, if the US continued to use old information to criticise Thailand for alleged violations.

"I don't think the US will take action against us though," he said. "They really should take Thailand off the PFC (Priority Foreign Country) list for sanctions."

The minister said Thailand could jointly issue a memorandum of understanding [MoU] with the US to resolve the the copyright problems, but Thailand's strict enforcement of the law meant there was no need for an MoU.

Influential people may have been involved in copyright violations in the past, he said, but he was now coordinating with the Interior and Justice ministries to stop this.

Mr Uthai said the US should rest assured of Thailand's good intentions.

"I confirm here that there is no problem with influential persons at this time, and I will continue to take action on this," he said.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said the Commerce Ministry was coordinating initiatives on whether the US would decide to sanction Thailand at the end of this month.

The Foreign Ministry is only giving support "on the outside".

He said it was the duty of the Commerce Ministry to handle the affair first.

Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong said he thought the US would use "smooth measures" with Thailand and the problem should not affect the total relationship between the two countries.

US Ambassador David Lambertson said he "has no doubt about the seriousness of the commitment" to crack down.

'Slim' Chance To Avoid U.S. Trade Sanctions

BK1604013393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Apr 93 p 13

[Text] Thailand has only a slim chance of avoiding United States Section 301 trade retaliation and a number of US buyers have already started looking to other countries for product supplies, according to the Thai Commercial Counsellor in Washington DC, M.L. Napthong Thongyai.

M.L. Napthong's comments were made in a letter sent to Deputy Commerce Minister Churin Laksanawisit.

At the same time, the Cabinet yesterday approved a Commerce Ministry proposal to commit Thailand to substantive provisions of the Berne Convention on intellectual property rights protection.

Thailand has long been committed to the administrative provisions of the convention and has used Thai laws to provide protection for intellectual property. The country has been accused of providing only minimum protection because it is not committed to the substantive provisions.

Committing to the substantive provisions means Thailand will now be expected to provide the same degree of intellectual property rights protection as the more than 90 other countries which are signatories to the convention.

M.L. Napthong's letter said members of the International Intellectual Property Association had organised a meeting for Monday to discuss copyright violations in Thailand further.

The US sub-committee on finance and trade will also meet next Monday to consider the same issue, with representatives of the association being invited to provide a briefing on the issue.

"The decision (of whether or not to retaliate against Thailand for its poor protection of copyrights) will be announced on April 30, then enforcement will start 60 days after the announcement," the letter said.

The "slim chance" Thailand had to avoid trade retaliation was to seriously crack down on copyright piracy operations, "and to assure the US of the Thai intention to do this as a long-term policy", it said.

M.L. Napthong added that Thailand had limited time left to solve the problem and any plans of action must not be delayed.

Government spokesman Aphisit Wetchachiwa said the US was paying the most attention to copyright piracy in Thailand as part of its consideration of whether or not to launch trade retaliation measures against the country.

Thailand had kept the US informed of the six-month-old Chuan Likphai Government's progress in solving the problem.

The Government realised that the US lacked confidence in measures Thailand took to resolve the situation. But it wanted to assure the US that it had taken several measures to seriously tackle the problem, including the establishment of a special task force to investigate piracy which had resulted in a number of arrests.

The Cabinet's decision to commit Thailand to the substantive provisions of the Berne Convention was considered another positive move by the Thai side.

Thailand has to report that it will upgrade its commitment to the convention to the secretary-general of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO).

This is expected to help reduce pressure on Thailand over trade issues from both the US and European Community.

Government To Join Copyright Convention

BK1604031393 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Apr 93 pp B1, B2

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved a Commerce Ministry proposal to apply for the membership to the Berne Convention on the protection of literary and artistic works in a further effort to ease U.S. pressure in the ongoing dispute over intellectual property rights.

The Berne Convention is an international convention—signed in Paris in 1971—governing standards of intellectual property and copyright protection. The convention is used as a model by member countries of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The Cabinet also agreed to amend Royal Decree BE2526 to provide more protection for international intellectual property rights.

The Cabinet, however, has yet to approve of another Commerce Ministry proposal to employ seven pieces of commercial and copyright legislation to add more power to the arsenal of laws the government can use against copyright violators.

A close aide to Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon said that if the Cabinet approves the ministry's initiative to apply the seven laws against copyright pirates, the minister would have a fair chance in asking the US Secretary of Commerce to open a new round of talks on the issue.

The United States has been steadily pressuring Thailand to eliminate copyright violations in the country threatening to retaliate against Thai exports under US Trade Law 301 if a solution to drug patent, video and audio tape piracy isn't found.

Although the United States has yet to announce whether it will retaliate against Thai exports, Mr Napthong Thongyai, Thai Commercial Counsellor in Washington, recently reported to the Commerce Ministry that a number of US importers have already slowed down imports of some Thai products. He said they fear that if the US Trade Representative (USTR) imposes retaliatory measures against Thai exports, they might face difficulty bringing the goods into the country.

Mr Napthong also reported to the ministry that the USTR, Mickey Kantor, met with the representatives from eight associations under the International Intellectual Property Alliance on April 12 to discuss how to deal with the copyright violations overseas.

The report said the US private sector is demanding that its government retaliate against Thai exports because they haven't been satisfied with the progress made by the Thai officials.

On April 19, the US Congress subcommittee on trade and finance is scheduled to announce its decision about what to do with countries deemed to have made unsatisfactory progress on copyright protections. Thailand is one of the countries that could be subject to harsh penalties as aresult of the decision.

Meanwhile, Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon told reporters yesterday that the US Trade Representative should base his decision on how the Chuan administration has dealt with copyright violations in the country rather than considering what former governments have done during the past five years.

Speaking before the Cabinet meeting to discuss the issue, Uthai said that if Washington based its decision on the country's old record, Thailand would consider the move a "U S effort to bully its smaller trading partner.

"We are concerned that US officials are confused by the (copyright violation) suppression procedures by the Thai officials," Uthai said. "Washington has claimed that Thai officials have done nothing to improve the situation in the past five years and eight months. But, in fact, our government has only been in the office for the past six months."

Uthai said the Chuan administration has shown a continuous effort to eliminate piracy on the domestic market. Police have arrested a number of offenders during the past few months, he said.

Uthai said the Thai government's considerable efforts to improve the intellectual property protection situation should be rewarded by the United States with the withdrawl of Thailand from its Priority Foreign Country watch-list.

Earlier, Commerce Permanent Secretary Phatchara Itsarasena visited Washington to discuss the dispute with US trade officials. During the trip, US officials urged Thai officials to sign a memorandum of understanding to show the country is committed to solving the problem of pirated products.

Cabinet Approves IPR Protection Decree Revision

BK1604033093 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 16 Apr 93

["News in Perspectives on Amendment to A Royal Decree for International Copyright Protection"]

[Text] Thailand has taken a significant step to amend royal decree for intellectual copyright protection. Amendment to the royal decree was approved by the cabinet yesterday as proposed by the Ministry of Commerce, which said the present legislation has been in use for more than 10 years and certain sections are not in accordance with the changing political, economic, and social conditions in the country and the world at large. The cabinet heard a report by Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon and Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak saying that the United States is to determine Thailand whether it would impose trade retaliation measures on Thai exports to the US or not. The country wants the Thai Government to provide more protection on intellectual property rights [IPR]. The US has listed Thailand as a priority foreign country being watched closely for trade violations under Section 301 in the U.S. Trade Act.

The US has long been Thailand's largest trading partner, accounting for some 20 percent of Thailand's total exports. Last year, its trade deficit with Thailand was $3.5 billion U.S. Thailand's exports to the US totalled $7.5 billion U.S. in 1992, an increase of 22.9 percent over that of 1991. The possible U.S. retaliation on Thai exports will, more or less, hurt Thailand's economy. The Thai Government has held both official and unofficial consultations with the US to settle the issue. Despite the fact that it has been in office for six months, the present administration has shown its seriousness in cracking down on intellectual property rights violation. It has formed a special task force since October last year to launch extensive and continuous suppression of sale of pirated tapes. The Ministry of Justice has also set up a committee to handle specifically legal procedure on intellectual property rights violation cases. In this regard, the Thai Government has informed the U.S. side that it decided to take tough action against copyright violation as the piracy does not benefit the country and the authorities have never been involved in the illegal trade.

The amendment to the Royal Decree for International Copyright Protection seeks to include the name of countries under the Bern Convention which are to be protected under Thailand's Patent and Copyright Law. The legislation will reduce the amount of time required for the legal court to decide where the property should be protected or not. Under the amendment, Thailand will also include copyright protection on literary and artistic works translation in line with the international laws and practices. The amendment will prevent Thailand's major trading partners such as the US and European Community from accusing the country as not complying with the Bern Convention. This will also reduce the retaliation press from the US. Moreover, with the amendment, Thailand clearly shows her strong commitment to tackle the copyright violation problem. This does not mean to appease the US but the country is fully aware of international trade practices.

Minister Informs U.S. Envoy of Copyright Measures

BK1604080293 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 16 Apr 93

[Text] Speaking to reporters after his meeting with U.S. Ambassador David Lambertson at the Commerce Ministry this morning, Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon said he had informed the U.S. envoy about the progress of the suppression of copyright violation in Thailand. He said:

[Begin Uthai recording] The suppression continued since the formation of the special task force in October last year. In the past, the court hearings were delayed because we must prove first that the United States is also a member of the Bern Convention. So we decided to amend the royal decree to include the name of the United States under the convention. In fact, the United States is a member of convention. Thailand is also a signatory to the Bern Convention amended in Paris. Our law also covers the contents of the amendment. But they do not understand this. The amendment of the royal decree was approved by the Cabinet yesterday. We fear that the U.S. side might not be aware of this latest development. This is why I invited the ambassador here to acknowledge the progress and gave him a memo on what we have done and the results of the suppression. During our meeting, I received a phone call from authorities concerned about the raids of two big factories on which the U.S. side has also been keeping a close watch. We know that United States itself does not want to take any action against Thailand. The information on our endeavors on this regard will be useful for the U.S congressional commission for economic affairs when it presents reports to the U.S. Congress on 19 April.

Since the ambassador is here to defend the U.S. interests, he will not be happy to see no progress made in this area. I believe that he must be satisfied with this new development. [end recording]

Editorial Urges Lifting Vietnam Economic Embargo

BK1604032193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Apr 93 p A5

[Editorial: "Time to find resolution to MIA issue once and for all"]

[Text] Just when it seemed that relations between Vietnam and the United States were finally on the road toward normalization, they have taken a turn for the worse. American suspicion has been renewed following

the discovery of Russian documents concerning American soldiers held as prisoners during the Vietnam War.

The documents were found accidentally by an Australian researcher (working for an American university) in Moscow, and include reports made in 1972 by General Tran Van Quang, an officer in the North Vietnamese army. Quang reportedly claimed that a total of 1,205 US prisoners were being held, although at the time the North Vietnamese government publicly acknowledged holding only 368.

Subsequently, 591 American prisoners were released. Assuming the documents are authentic, then, roughly 600 troops remain unaccounted for.

What happened to these men? There have been claims that Vietnam offered to return them in exchange for financial aid, but that these offers were refused and covered up by various US administrations.

Alternatively, the missing men may simply have been executed.

Vietnam has in fact denounced the new-found documents as fabrications, claiming that it has already divulged the fate of all American prisoners of war (POWs) and soldiers missing in action (MIAs) to the best of its ability.

A new round of negotiations between representatives of the two governments should help us clear up this mystery, especially since Tran Van Quang is a member of the Vietnamese team.

Vietnam is eager to break free of America's trade embargo and rejoin the world trading system. US businessmen are equally eager to invest in a country which could well become the next Asian "tiger". If Vietnam has indeed been hiding some facts regarding US POWs and MIAs, then now is certainly the time for full disclosure.

But American investigators should also look to their own house for some answers. If there has been a cover-up, then several US administrations—starting with President Nixon's—may have been involved.

Even if the documents turn out to be authentic, this issue must be viewed from a broader perspective. The unresolved fate of 600 American troops is indeed a tragedy, but so is that of untold thousands of Vietnamese soldiers and civilians who suffered an unknown fate during the war.

The desire of families of American MIAs to know what happened to their loved ones is certainly understandable, but have they ever considered how the lives of Vietnamese families were disrupted by the war?

In fact, thanks to the embargo, the Vietnamese are still paying for America's loss.

Hanoi must do its utmost to resolve the fate of American POWs and MIAs. But even if the worst-case scenario—that hundreds of US soldiers were indeed executed, and their executions covered up—turns out to be true, the embargo must come to end.

Sooner or later, bygones must become bygones. The time is right to heal the wounds which now stretch back nearly two decades.

Vietnam must still live up to its commitments. It must deal with the MIA issue honestly. And it must accept the outcome of the upcoming election in Cambodia, even if the party it is backing there does not win.

But once these commitments are fulfilled, there can be no more procrastination on America's part.

Both Americans and Vietnamese suffered greatly from the war, and both are still suffering from its aftermath.

Vietnam finds it difficult to develop without the loans and global markets made available to its neighbours. And the US finds it difficult to put this turbulent period of its past behind it so long as relations remain antagonistic.

For everyone's sake—those who died and those who survived, people in America and in Southeast Asia—the governments of Vietnam and the US must iron out their differences and end this war once and for all.

PRC's Qian Qichen To Visit; Talks Previewed

BK1604020393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Apr 93 p 6

[Text] Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen arrives here on Sunday [18 April] for an official visit expected to be preoccupied with talks on the situation in Cambodia.

Mr Qian is scheduled to have separate talks on Monday with Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri.

China was the main supplier of arms to the Khmer Rouge during the Cambodian civil war and is believed to retain substantial influence over the guerrillas who refuse to join the election process and have vacated their office in Phnom Penh.

China last month backed the UN security council decision to endorse the May 23-28 timeframe set for the polls in a move seen as a signal for the Khmer Rouge to participate in the UN-sponsored elections.

The UN security council decision came after the Khmer Rouge made clear their decision to stay out of the race.

Mr Qian will be the foreign ministry's guest before he heads China's delegation to the 49th session of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) opening here on Wednesday.

After talks with Squadron Leader Prasong and Mr Chuan the Chinese Foreign Minister will be granted an

audience with His Majesty the King at Chitlada Palace on Monday afternoon, a foreign ministry statement said.

He leaves later that afternoon for an overnight stay in Chiang Mai. He returns to Bangkok on Tuesday, when he is scheduled to meet leading businessmen, members of the Chinese community and ESCAP executive secretary Rafeeuddin Ahmed.

He heads back to Beijing on April 22.

Published reports said a meeting between Mr Qian and his South Korean counterpart, Han Sung-Joo, is expected to take place here while they are attending the ESCAP meeting.

The two are to discuss details of the visit to South Korea later this year of Chinese President Jiang Zemin and the withdrawal of North Korea from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

South Korea wants China to use its good relations to persuade Pyongyang to reconsider the decision to stay out of the treaty.

Vietnam

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Holds News Briefing

Discusses Cambodian Situation

BK1504142893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] The Foreign Ministry spokesman held a regular news conference this afternoon. Responding to a REUTER question on our government's stand on recent developments in Cambodia, the spokesman said: Vietnam has done and will continue to do its best to urge the UN Transition Authority in Cambodia, the Supreme National Council, and the State of Cambodia to ensure peaceful living and assistance for Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia. Answering Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's letter, Prince Sihanouk, Akashi, and Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen all confirmed that they will do their best to protect Vietnamese nationals living in Cambodia. UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali emphasized during his visit to Vietnam the UN's responsibility to prevent massacres of Vietnamese residents in Cambodia. The Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed that at this point in time, the public must be highly vigilant in the face of Khmer Rouge intrigues and must strongly force them to observe the Paris agreement so that the agreement can be carried out properly and peace can be restored to Cambodia. By withdrawing from their office in Phnom Penh, the Khmer Rouge proves once again that it ignores and blatantly challenges public opinion.

Discusses U.S. Envoy's Upcoming Visit

BK1504151093 Hanoi VNA in English 1448 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Excerpts] Hanoi VNA April 15—Ms. Ho The Lan, head of the press and information department and spokesperson of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry, held a regular press conference here this afternoon. [passage omitted]

In his recent meeting with the UN secretary general, when asked if Vietnam would call for international assistance to Vietnamese residents in Cambodia, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet asked the United Nations to assist persecuted Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia who are forced to leave their places of residence and settle in safer places in Cambodia.

Now that the situation in Cambodia remains volatile, a number of Vietnamese residents might seek refuge in Vietnam.

Depending on concrete cases, the local administration of Vietnam will give them the necessary assistance to help them through these difficult times. [passage omitted]

Asked by REUTER how Vietnam assesses the prospect of General J. Vessey's Vietnam visit late this week in the context of recent document alleging that Vietnam has withheld informamtion about American POW's and MIA's, Ms. Ho The Lan said the news carried in THE NEW YORK TIMES is sheer fabrication the same as the three pictures produced earlier of alleged American prisoners of war or the so-called tranfer of Amercian POW's by Vietnam to the Soviet Union, which have once caused such a fuss in the United States. An American paper on April 13 even suggested that Vietnam might have killed 600 American POW's. This is a shameless fabrication which is an affront to the Vietnamese people who have made and are making great efforts to solve the MIA question in the humanitarian spirit. Any sober-minded person can see that all these fabrications are intended to block the progress of the Vietnam-U.S. relations.

We are prepared to receive Gen J. Vessey, special envoy of the U.S. President. Mr. Vessey will hold talks with Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam. They will discuss himanitarian issues of both the United States and Vietnam. The Vietnamese side is ready to discuss other issues of U.S. concern.

Gen. J. Vessey was the first special envoy of the U.S. President to visit Vietnam in 1987 and later returned many times to hold official talks with Vietnam on questions of American MIA's and POW's on Vietnam. Both sides have described his visits as positive process of gradual improvement of relations between the two countries.

We think that Gen. Vessey's coming visit will help him form objective observations and judgments conformable with the real situation.

Discusses Asian 'Arms Race'

BK1504155893 Hong Kong AFP in English 1122 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Hanoi, April 15 (AFP)—Vietnam, whose million-man army was still making neighbors tremble three years ago, expressed concern Thursday over signs of a mounting arms race in Asia.

"After many decades of instability caused by wars, this is the first time the chance of peace has appeared in the Southeast Asian region," Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Ho The Lan said. "We hope the aspirations of the people are peace, stability and cooperation for development rather than an arms race," she said.

Lan had been asked about recent arms purchases by members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which Vietnam has applied to join, though China's military modernization program has caused even greater concern in Hanoi.

Vietnam has demobilized close to half of its million-man army over the past three years as it devotes the bulk of its resources to economic restructuring, according to Vietnamese sources and diplomats.

The communist-ruled nation has dramatically improved relations with ASEAN since withdrawing its army from Cambodia in 1989 and co-signing the Cambodian peace treaty two years later. But Hanoi last year disclosed that it had cut its defense budget less than anticipated due mainly to tensions with China over border demarcation and the disputed Spratly islands.

"The Cold War is over. That is obvious," Lan said. "But the end of the Cold War does not automatically bring about peace and stability."

Vo Van Kiet Receives Oil Prospectors

BK1504152293 Hanoi VNA in English 1500 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 15—Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet received here this noon representatives of the foreign groups which have won the biddings for oil prospection in the Dai Hung oilfield offshore south Vietnam.

These foreign groups include the BHP of Australia, the Petronas of Malaysia, the Total of France and the Sumitomo of Japan.

Speaking of behalf of the guests, Mr. Petu Willcox, executive director general of the BHP, thanked the Vietnamese Government and concerned offices for their assistance for them to take part in the biddings. He also made a commitment that they will correctly discharge all obligations and rights as specified in the contracts they have signed with the Vietnamese Government. Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet said the presence of the bid winners as a new sign of the process of expanding international cooperation between Vietnam and other nations in oil industry.

The prime minister said that the formation and operation of this multinational businese provides Vietnam with an opportunity to acquaint itself with a new model of business organisation so as to prepare for the future development of its own oil industry. He also said that the Vietnamese Government and concerned offices are ready to meet the requirements of the groups so that the Dai Hung oilfield can soon produce oil.

Later in the day at the government guest house, Dr. Ho Si Thoang, general director of the Vietnam Oil and Gas Corporation (Petrovietnam), signed a joint-venture and product-sharing contract with this group of foreign oil prospectors.

The signing ceremony was attended, among others, by a representative of the overseas oil and gas league of Russia which is a party to the Vietsopetro side in the joint venture.

Profits Expected from Dai Hung Oilfield Deal

BK1604064693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0534 GMT 16 Apr 93

[By Andrew Sherry]

[Text] Hanoi, April 16 (AFP)—Vietnam's Soviet-built oil industry will get a lift into the 21st century under an agreement giving an Australian-led consortium the right to develop the Dai Hung offshore oil field, analysts said Friday.

The 23-year production-sharing contract signed Thursday should also boost consortium leader BHP Petroleum Pty. Ltd. into the ranks of major oil producers as the field comes gradually on line starting in mid-1994, BHP officials said.

"We think it's the largest untapped oil field in Asia," said BHP Petroleum chief executive Peter Willcox, adding that the offshore field was estimated to hold 800 million barrels of oil and significant amounts of gas.

Willcox estimated that full development of Dai Hung (Big Bear) would cost .5 billion dollars, including 300 million in the first phase to install floating platforms that will begin pumping oil in 12 to 18 months.

Operator BHP owns 43.75 percent of the development, the Malaysian state oil company Petronas Carigali 20 percent, while Sumitomo of Japan and Total of France evenly split a 21.25 percent share.

State-owned PetroVietnam retains a 15 percent in tandem with Zarubezhzeft of Russia, its partner in the joint-venture VietSovPetro, which held rights to the field off Vietnam's southern coast.

BHP hopes to pump 20,000 to 30,000 barrels per day (bpd) from Dai Hung by mid-1994, earning hard currency for Vietnam while completing a full evaluation of the field's potential, Willcox said at the signing ceremony here Wednesday evening.

By 1998, the production should hit a plateau of 800,000 bpd of "light, sweet, low-sulfur crude," if the field lives up to its promise, he said.

Vietnam has up to now relied on VietSovPetro to operate its known oil fields, Bach Ho (White Tiger) and Rong (Dragon), which also lie off Vietnam's southern coast. The fields produce about 80,000 bpd.

The consortium's development of Dai Hung will introduce Vietnam to technology that is decades ahead of VietSovPetro's Soviet-forged equipment, according to a Western economist who has worked with PetroVietnam.

"There is a lot of waste, a lot of inefficiency," in VietSovPetro's methods, the economist said.

Dai Hung lies under about 110 meters (350 feet) of water, "deeper water than the older technology" can usually handle, Willcox said.

Though Vietnam has signed more than 20 production-sharing contracts with international companies or groups since 1989, Dai Hung was the first known oil field—rather than unexplored concession—to go on the auction block.

The tender last year triggered a fierce bidding war, with nine foreign companies or groups vying for the contract, including industry giants Shell and BP.

Sumitomo and Total had mounted a joint bid to operate the field, but after they were edged out PetroVietnam asked BHP to include them in the consortium, company officials said.

American companies were barred from bidding by the U.S. trade embargo.

VietSovPetro discovered Dai Hung by drilling at the site of an exploratory well abandoned by U.S.-based Mobil Oil when the Saigon government fell in 1975, according to industry sources.

Monetary Market Remains Stable in 1st Quarter

BK0704085193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 5 Apr 93

[Text] According to a recent evaluation report from the Market Management Agency, in the first three months of this year the monetary market has continued to remain stable. Compared with December last year, the price indexes were 101.72 percent for January and 101.09 percent for February. As for the price index for March, it is estimated to be lower than that of February. Therefore, compared with December last year, the average percentage of price increases in the first three months of 1993 was only about 1.08 percent.

Noteworthy is the fact that during the Lunar New Year holidays in late January and since the issuance of bank notes with denominations of 20,000 and 50,000 dong by the state on 2 March, the prices of many staples have remained stable or even decreased.

In Hanoi, the price of a chi [3.75 grams] of 99.9 percent pure gold has remained at 425,000 or 428,000 dong, a U.S. dollar between 10,520 and 10,600 dong, and a kilogram of regular rice between 2,000 and 2,500 dong.

The monetary market has remained stable since early April of this year.

Hanoi-Lang Son Telecommunication Line Commissioned

BK1404160293 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 11 Apr 93

[Text] The Hanoi-Lang Son microwave telecommunication line was officially put into commission Saturday, after four months trial operation.

Premier Receives Marshall Islands Minister

BK1504151593 Hanoi VNA in English 1455 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 15—Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet received here today Foreign Minister of the Republic of Marshall Islands Tom D. Kijiner during his current four-day official visit to Vietnam

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet said that this first visit by a foreign minister of Marshall Islands constituted the first step in a new period of the two countries' newly-established but promising relations. He also said that Vietnam, with its economic potentials, supplement to the needs of Marshall Islands in food and consumer good, and in its turn, Marshall Islands can cooperate with Vietnam in such branches as fishery and farm produce processing, of which it has advantage.

Foreign Minister Tom D. Kijiner expressed his high appreciation of Vietnam's achievements in economic development and its precious experience in national construction and defence. He also said that the results of his visit will serve as a good basis for the consolidation and strengthening of the bilateral friendship and cooperation for the prosperity of each country, and for peace, friendship cooperation and developement in the region.

Earlier in the day, the Marshall Islands diplomatic chief held talks with his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Manh Cam.

The talks focused on concrete measures to develop bilateral cooperation in commerce, aviation, navigation, agriculture, and other fields. The two sides agreed to sign an agreement on economic cooperation at an early date.

Australia

Defense Chief Supports PNG Security Forces

BK1504072593 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Retiring chief of the Australian Defense Force, General Peter Gration, says the peace plan for Cambodia still has a chance of success. But, if the United Nations were to step up its role there from peacekeeping to peacemaking, Gen. Gration says Australian forces would be prepared to do whatever was necessary. Gen. Gration hands over this week to the new chief, Vice Admiral Alan Beaumont. In a final news conference, Gen. Gration also flatly rejected Australian military involvement on the Papua New Guinea [PNG]- Solomon Islands border.

[Begin Gration recording] I distinguish between Australian forces becoming directly involved—which is what the question was and I rule out absolutely—and our continuing support for the PNG defense force by the provision of training they ask for via the logistics support agreement that we have got with them. That will continue and we make no apologies at all about that. But what I am ruling out unequivocally is any direct Australian involvement in that tension along the border. [end recording]

Afghanistan Seeks Closer Diplomatic Ties

BK1004091493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0424 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Sydney, April 10 (AFP)—Afghanistan is seeking closer diplomatic links with Australia by lobbying for the opening of a consulate, officials said Saturday. A spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs said the government had been approached to approve an honorary consulate for Afghanistan in either Sydney or Melbourne.

Afghanistan was also seeking cooperation on telecommunications and aid assistance, the spokesman said. A delegation from the Islamic State of Afghanistan was expected to arrive in Canberra on Tuesday for a four-day visit. The spokesman said the visit stemmed from a visit to Kabul last year by former Australian trade minister John Kerin.

A statement issued by the Afghanistan embassy in Tokyo on Friday mentioned the establishment of a consulate—rather than an honorary consulate—in Australia. Thousands of Afghans migrated to Australia during the country's occupation by forces of the former Soviet Union between 1978 and 1992.

But Afghan-Australian relations can be traced back to the early Afghan camel-drivers who arrived in the 1860s and established a mode of travel used in Australia for 50 years. There are Afghan mosques in Adelaide, Perth and Alice Springs.

Papua New Guinea

PNGDF, Indonesia Project To Develop Villages

BK1304123093 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1034 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] Port Moresby, April 13 (ANTARA)—The Indonesian Armed Forces (ABRI) and the Papua New Guinea Defence Forces (PNGDF) have agreed to cooperate in the development of PNG villages with the style of ABRI's civic mission.

Defence Attache at the Indonesian Embassy in PNG, Colonel (Artillery) Androas Riwu told ANTARA here on Monday that the joint civic action was part of the stipulations of the memorandum of understanding which was signed by the Indonesian defence minister and the PNG defence minister in May 1992.

Riwu mere said that both armed forces, together with the local peoples, would establish drinking water projects in the regions of Bena-Bena, Goroka, and Eastern Highland.

A working schedule to realize the projects was being prepared by the PNGDF headquarters and if there are no changes, the activities would be started by the end of 1993.

As a follow-up of a meeting of the Indonesia-PNG joint borders committee in 1992 both governments have agreed to preserve the 52 border markers separating the Irian Jaya territory of Indonesia from the PNG territory.

The maintenance of the border markers was aimed at keeping the pillars intact for a long time to prevent them from damage or from being covered by forestry growth. The pillars should also serve as reminders to the peoples of both sides not to cross the borders without permit from their respective government.

Indonesia was given the task to preserve 24 pillars while PNG 28 pillars.

At the border liaison meeting in September 1992, both sides reminded to each other to come up with the commitment to provide guidance to their citizens along the border areas.

Minister Attacks Premier on Bougainville Crisis

BK1504121093 Hong Kong AFP in English 1053 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Port Moresby, April 15 (AFP)—Papua New Guinea Prime Minister Paias Wingti came under attack Thursday from his foreign minister over his handling of the long-running Bougainville crisis. Foreign Minister John Kaputin criticised Wingti's leadership qualities and his hardline stance on Bougainville, the attack contained in a seven-page letter sent to the prime minister while Kaputin was on a visit to Brussels. During Kaputin's absence, cabinet rejected a submission by him for a European Community-ACP (Africa-Carribean-Pacific) joint assembly team to visit Bougainville.

During the same period Wingti gave to parliament his so-called "Bougainville Address", in which he said there would be no truce and that the separatist rebels on the island province should surrender. Kaputin said he was dismayed at the two issues, especially that Wingti was party to them, and accused the prime minister of not having anything new to offer to solving the crisis. Contents of the letter were splashed across the front page of the Post-Courier newspaper Thursday.

"After almost five years of similar official advice, government policies and public statement, almost nothing in your Bougainville Address is new," Kaputin's letter said. "Quite a deal runs directly counter to what you have repeatedly told me you believe," he wrote, adding: "Much is completely irrelevant or, if I may say, merely foolish." Kaputin also urged Wingti to "act decisively", implying he did not think the prime minister was displaying that quality. He told Wingti that his assurances to invite the international fact-finding mission was "worthless".

"It raises questions about your claim that 'there is no blockade' around Bougainville, that 'humanitarian aid had always been allowed into the province' and that 'the media has also been granted access'," he wrote. "It conflicts with your frequently stated commitment to rehabilitation." Kaputin also said that it was misleading to refer to Bougainville rebels as "criminals", because according to him their motives were more complex and selfless than those of common criminals.

The minister took issue with the "misunderstanding and insensitivity" displayed by leaders of both the Papua New Guinea and neighbouring Solomon Islands governments. Kaputin defended the role of foreign governments in trying to assist in the crisis, saying theirs was one of concern for aid, and the welfare and rights of fellow human beings and most did not seek to interfere in Papua New Guinea's internal affairs.

"The willingness shown by members of the ACP-EEC joint assembly to consider—and then to accept—the ammendment I proposed was, first, a test and then a measure of my own, the government's and ultimately the nation's credibility," he wrote. "My efforts to safeguard our national interests in a very difficult situation have been very badly undermined," he continued.

"Serious doubt, to say the least, has thereby been cast on my personal integrity, the government's reliability and Papua New Guinea's reputation—not only among members of the ACP-EEC joint assembly but in countries from which they come, and, as word spreads, further abroad." Wingti declined to comment on the matter, which has provoked public debate about his ability to resolve the crisis.

Solomon Islands

Premier, PNG Counterpart Agree To Improve Ties

BK1504093093 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 15 Apr 93

[Text] Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea [PNG] have moved to patch up their badly ruptured relations. Sean Dorney reports that the Solomon Islands Prime Minister Solomon Mamaloni rang Prime Minister Wingti today and one result could be a joint ministerial trip to their troubled border. Dorney says repeated border violations by PNG troops and allegations that the Solomon Islands was aiding and abetting the Bougainville Revolutionary Army led to exchanges of fire between the security forces of the two Melanesian neighbors and a dangerous deterioration in relations.

Prime Minister Mamaloni called Paias Wingti today and according to a joint news statement released simultaneously in Port Moresby and Honiara, both men committed themselves to maintain dialogue and restore what they call normalcy to relations.